

John Henry Davis

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE SUMMONS OF TRUTH.

THE array of authorities which we were enabled to present to our readers last week, in corroboration of the arguments we have of late employed in favour of an Anti-state-church Conference, may pass, we think, as a sufficient guarantee that the project is one deserving of serious consideration. We shall suppose that such is the general impression. We shall imagine, what we are surely warranted in doing, that they in whose minds our previous labours had failed to produce concurrence, have, by the recent publication of the list of the general provisional committee, been awakened to attention, and disposed to further inquiry. We think we see the smile of contempt gradually stealing away, and giving place to a somewhat soberer expression of surprise. The heedlessness which was deemed becoming towards a contemplated movement when it could speak only for itself, and that in tones of feebleness, is naturally enough succeeded by a more respectful regard when that movement carries with it the recommendation of well-nigh two hundred gentlemen, several of whom are eminently distinguished by all the qualifications which adorn human character. Knowing, therefore, as we do, how easy it is to be betrayed into a false position by simple *vis inertiae*, to despise that which we will not take the requisite pains to understand, and to turn away from novelties forasmuch merely as they are novel—and believing that hundreds of men, substantially sincere, are now beginning to review with care decisions which they had pronounced in inconsiderate haste—we shall endeavour to forget that opposition to the projected conference ever had a being, and address ourselves to the great body of dissenters, under the impression that they are now willing to receive any information which may assist them to a sound conclusion in this matter. "There must be something more in this move than we supposed—what is it?" Such we believe to be a fair interpretation of what is passing, at this moment, across the minds of not a few. We accordingly set ourselves to furnish a reply, as best we may.

A conflict of great principles—principles intimately affecting the religious well-being of this empire and of the world—has set in. Towards this awful crisis, Providence has evidently been moving on events for a lengthened period. It is, therefore, as far as human agency is concerned, an inevitable necessity. To bring about a peaceful but decisive struggle between the Christianity of the heart, and the Christianity which owes its being to this world's state-craft—between the religion of enlightened love, and the religion of political party—between the authority, in all matters pertaining to divine worship and service, of the Bible, and the authority of acts of parliament—so to direct the stream of human thought, feeling, and action, as to bring the respective pretensions of Christ's church and the world's church into collision, that religious knowledge, faith, purity, and zeal, may drive forth for ever from the domains of conscience the intruders who have long usurped dominion there—to call into play those various and hidden agencies whereby the social mind shall be driven upon the inquiry whether truth, or civil governments, have best right to rule the inner man—in a word, to push on to an issue the great controversy which for ages has been going on, between the heaven-appointed Ruler over the spiritual world, and the ignorant but presuming men who have clutched the reins of authority, and play the despot where

they ought to bend in willing and reverential submission this, to all who read history with an intelligent heart, and who interpret passing events by the application to them of faith in great principles, is manifestly the centre upon which all providential lines have been, and are, converging.

The practical solution of this momentous question will give significance to the labours, the self-denial, the sacrifices, the prayers, the tears, and the blood of our nonconforming forefathers. They were but pioneers to the settlement of the pending conflict. It was theirs to level the hills and to fill in the valleys, to open a highway for those who should succeed them, along which to march to the final overthrow of this stronghold of error and delusion. Their very mistakes have been serviceable to us, and, like the dead bodies of a forlorn hope, fill up the moat over which we must pass to victory. Nor these alone have contributed to ripen the crisis upon which our times have fallen. The very advocates of state-nominalism are doing the work the consummation of which they eagerly strive to avert. The discouragement within the establishment of evangelical religion—the unconcealed and unconcealable covetousness and ambition of the hierarchy—the revival of principles which the reformation stunned, but did not destroy—the growing arrogance of the clergy, their fond assumptions, their tyrannical demands, their active persecutions—the embarrassments, thickening on all hands, of a proud aristocracy—the increasing and widely diffused intelligence of the people—ecclesiastical disruption in Scotland—organised discontent in Ireland—unredressed oppression in Wales—an attempt at a clerical Education bill in England—civil liberty stayed in its progress in the three kingdoms and in the principality, mainly by and for the compulsory church—who does not discern, in all these events, the various letters, written by the finger of God himself, which go to make up the emphatic denunciation, "Thy days are numbered?" The great contest of antagonistic principles is inevitable. It is plainly decreed, and is being even now brought about by ordinances fixed and unchangeable as those which regulate the great movements of nature. This truth is entering upon a closing and mortal struggle with that error; and her summons to all who love her is to step forward on her behalf, and to aid and assist. This is, in few words—this critical position of affairs—the immediate occasion of the anti-state-church conference, presently to be summoned.

To every ingenuous mind—to every mind which has upon it the stamp of Christian nobility—there are attractions, there is a glory, bright, more than sufficient, irresistible, in deliberately, willingly, openly, and at every hazard, taking post under the banners of TRUTH. It matters little who may in such service be our comrades: it is honour enough to be there with the meaneast. The band with whom we associate may be small, and, to worldly view, contemptible—may be far from possessing the striking qualifications, and from exhibiting the perfect discipline, which we could desire—may draw down upon themselves the scornful laughter of their foes, by the awkwardness of their first movements—may even provoke a bitter hostility, which else had slept at their feet, and elicit a general volley of shafts winged, if not with death, yet at least with the calumny which drinks up the very stream of life. "Well! be it so"—is the resolve of the genuine votary of this shrine—"come disgrace, come mortification, come temporary reverses in which I shall be overwhelmed—come what come may—obloquy amongst friends, derision from foes, present failure, future annoyance, and, haply, ruin—it is yet worth while to stand with Truth against the world." Aye! is it. Success would be gratifying enough, were success to crown our efforts. But it is not the success, regarded for its own sake, after which we ought to pant. No! not the success, but the service, offers the real attraction to the sincere. To be there—with her and her followers—to be doing on her behalf—to be acting or suffering, as need may require, with a simple view to the establishment of her rights against all gainsayers—to be numbered with her clan, and share her fortunes, and live and labour and die to place her upon the throne—such, with all who know Truth, is the highest honour to which they would aspire.

And it is to this honour and this duty that every dissenter, every advocate of Christian willingness,

every opponent of compulsory forms and institutions of religion, is now summoned. "Come forth," is the language of those gentlemen whose names adorn the list of the general provisional committee, to all who hold similar views with themselves on the subject of state churches—"Come forth, and enlist yourselves in the cause of truth. A council is to be held, with a view to solemn deliberation. What may be the wisest course to adopt we now presume not to decide; but unless some measures be resorted to, no result can be expected. We call upon you now simply to give open testimony to what you profess to believe—to range yourselves with the active friends of ecclesiastical emancipation. We ask you, as avowed admirers of important principles, to join your brethren in considering what can be done for their advancement; and, after such considerations, to proceed to do it. Lend truth your aid; withhold not from her your influence; come to her support with your talents, zeal, and piety; take up an appropriate position on her side in the struggle which Providence is evidently precipitating, and which is now setting in. The conflict is not far off, act whatever part you may. You may shun, but you cannot stay it. To protract its duration is, possibly, within your power; but to prevent its taking place is not within the compass of mortal agency. Your silence will not stave it off; your inaction will not defer it to a future age. All events are hurrying on the inevitable crisis, and friend and foe are alike under the superintendence of the Highest, bringing on the encounter between the spiritual church and the political. We call upon you to take a becoming part in this enterprise—to do honour to yourselves by doing honour to your principles. To the conference, then, we beseech you, either in person, or by your representative. The great object is now before you. The first, the best, the wisest, the most direct way to that object is by united, earnest, and solemn intercommunion of thought with thought, and heart with heart. To act—to act with vigour—to act in harmony, must necessarily precede any considerable measure of success. To think before we act, to know our principles, to settle our plans, to choose our agents, to strengthen our own motives, and refresh those of others—must go before action, and hence the projected conference.

THE STUDENTS OF PONTYPOOL COLLEGE AND THE DISSENTING CONFERENCE.

DEEPLY impressed with the consideration of the fearful evils, moral and political, resulting from the union of church and state in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, and in the British colonies, the students of the Baptist Theological Institution, Pontypool, desire to record their cordial approbation of the proposed conference of dissenters of different denominations.

They regard such a conference of ministers, and other sincere and enlightened nonconformists, as eminently calculated to diffuse information among the less instructed portion of dissenting churches themselves, on the great question of national establishments of religion—to encourage pastors generally to discuss more frequently and fully the principles of Christian liberty, in the course of their ordinary ministry—to command attention to those principles from quarters which cannot be reached by ordinary methods—to consolidate the power and resources of the nonconforming committees throughout the land—and to commence a course of prudent and peaceable, but earnest and uncompromising agitation, for the ultimate dissolution of the unhallowed connexion between church and state.

They are not ignorant of the power which will be arrayed against the friends of complete religious freedom in the approaching struggle, but trust the Lord of the church will grant to the conference, when assembled, "the spirit of wisdom, and of power, and of a sound mind."

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| John Jones, | Thomas Price, |
| David Davies, | Thomas Evans, |
| John W. Todd, | John Morgan, |
| Evan Meredith, | John Morris, |
| William Richards, | David J. Davis, |
| William Lewis, | Lot Lee, |
| Evan Thomas, | Edward Roberts, |
| Nathaniel Thomas, | |

THE PRESS AND THE PROPOSED CONVENTION.

(The Church and State Gazette.)

We directed the attention of our readers on a late occasion to the SECTARIAN MOVEMENT, which is preparing a combined and simultaneous attack on the established church. We must recur to it. The enemy is inveterate, and must be watched; and it is absolutely necessary that our readers should be fully acquainted with the nature and character of the projected assault.

It is intended by its originators to be a well-sustained effort to unite the various sects of Dissent, for the avowed purpose of separating church and state—in other words, of divorcing the religion of Jesus Christ from the government of the empire, and of reducing this great nation to a non-Christian community.

It is an enterprise which, in its course, whatever may be its result, must be attended with innumerable evils to the body politic; and, if it could be carried, fatal to the institutions of the country. The religion of Christ, as handed down to us from the beginning, and incorporated in all the vital actings of the constitution, is so strictly united to the monarchy, magistracy, legislature, and laws, that to separate them by any external force, must be followed with the most disastrous consequences. But no matter: everything must be risked—land, property, trade, investments, monarchy, institutions—everything which comprises the glory and strength of the British empire must give way to the lust of church destruction. In short, it is a second Puritan war; and come what will, sunshine or storm—life or death—

"Carthago delenda est."

And why? For the sake of establishing peace amongst men, and of promoting "pure and undefiled religion" in the world? No person at all conversant with the state of mind and feeling existing in the leaders of this revolutionary movement, can, for a moment, admit it. It is entirely the offspring of pride. Whilst the monarchy is necessarily united to the religion of Christ, as represented in the church of England, the ministers of that religion enjoy a recognition of superior claims. The leaders of the Puritan movement avow this as a fundamental grievance not to be tolerated. They have perfect freedom to worship God in their own way. They are even protected by the law in all their religious immunities. But all this availeth nothing so long as Mordecai sits at the King's gate. "Nothing but the utter extinction of the established church will satisfy them!" The editor of the *Nonconformist* literally raves. There is a sullen, determined, ferocious temper, in this sectarian leader, which we hope does not corrupt the judgment of Dissenters generally, &c., &c.

We shall give no advice at present. We hope Dissenters themselves will see the folly and wickedness of following such pernicious counsels, and will themselves put a stop to such disgraceful proceedings.

THE VICAR OF LEEDS AND CHURCH REFORM.—Dr Hook, the vicar of Leeds, has proposed to make a great sacrifice in order to increase the efficiency of the church. The sacrifice is seen to be the greater when the relinquishment of power as well as emolument is considered. The parish of Leeds, it appears from Dr Hook's letter, "embraces an area of thirty-two miles in circumference, from the whole of which the vicar receives the usual ecclesiastical payments. It contains some twenty churches and chapels, to all of which the vicar presents. Dr Hook proposes to divide this overwhelming cure into fourteen parishes, reserving to himself one—of course, the principal district; but surrendering all income derivable from the other thirteen to the respective incumbents, and the whole patronage to the bishop of the diocese. The price which he demands for his personal sacrifices is simply this, that the churches shall be churches of the poor, and that the livings which the vicar is thus to endow shall be provided with a residence for the clergyman. When his parishioners can make up their minds to leave the floor of every church wholly free and unappropriated, and to furnish such an adequate vicarage, Dr Hook's surrender of money and patronage will take immediate effect. Dr Hook, says the *Bradford Observer*, evidently looks upon his church as a beatific vision—a spiritual embodiment of all that is beautiful and lovely in religious truth. This theory will help to account for the sacrifice he has announced his willingness to make on behalf of the object of his admiration; and though we are no admirers of his church, we are not the less ready to ascribe our meed of praise to a man who makes sacrifices to what he believes to be a great and holy principle. The Doctor says, that he has been maturing this plan for several months past; and even now he has not propounded it merely on his own responsibility. "It is," he says—

"Of such an extensive nature that I have been desirous to ascertain the practicability of carrying it into effect, before proposing it. For this purpose I have submitted the measure to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners through their indefatigable and judicious secretary, and they have officially stated to me their approval of its principles, and their readiness to accept the duties it will devolve upon them. I may also state that the plan has been laid before Sir Robert Peel, who has also signified to me his entire approbation of its principles, and has expressed a hope that the measure may be soon conducted to a successful issue."

Mr M'Mullen has announced to the Vice-chancellor of Oxford University that it is not his intention to proceed with the appeal against the decision of the delegates in favour of Dr Hampden, regius professor. The suit is therefore terminated.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER ON PEWS.—Bishop Phillips, at a meeting of the Plymouth District Association of the National Society for the education of the poor, the Society for Building and Repairing churches, and the Society for Promoting the Employment of additional Curates in Populous Places, on the 16th inst., delivered a long address bemoaning the ignorance and demoralisation of the country, and pointing out the duties of the Church of England. In referring to pews he said:—

"It was a most enormous injustice, the discredit of which attached to every one present, for he concluded that every one present had availed himself of the means which were afforded of obtaining seats in these churches. And how were seats obtained? By paying money for them. But while they were paying money for themselves had they not been careless whether others, the poor, had the means of paying or not? They who had the means of doing so ought to pay money that the poor might be accommodated; but instead of that, they paid for themselves, and caused the exclusion of the poor from their churches. He said this as their Bishop, with authority, but not with arrogant authority—God forbid; but yet with authority he emphatically said it, that this wrong of the poor should be redressed. He would not come to that place year after year and see the right of the poor man to be accommodated in his parish church stolen from him—for it was stolen. The rich had no right to pews, or accommodation beyond the poor man. They paid for their pews at church, it was true; but no one, no churchwardens, had a right to raise a revenue from the letting of pews in church."

The expenses of the church service, he said, should be defrayed by a church rate; and to raise the money by pew rents was a mere evasion of that duty.

TONBRIDGE, KENT.—A most disgraceful scene took place here this evening. The corpse of a poor man, named Charles Green, was brought some miles from the country, to be buried at half-past four. When they arrived at the church no parson was forthcoming, the rev. gentleman being out on some business of his own, and it being only a parish funeral, he did not think it worth his while to attend to it, although the time was fixed by himself. After waiting outside the church for about two hours, the coffin resting on the shoulders of the bearers the whole of the time, the Rev. Mr Weldon, master of the grammar school, consented to conduct the service. The remains of the poor man were interred by moonlight, the sexton kindly officiating as clerk. Oh, the blessings of the poor man's church!—*Correspondent.*

CHURCH RATES, WORCESTER.—A great victory has been gained here on the question of church rates. At a meeting at Claines church, a rate of twopence in the pound was proposed by the churchwarden, which, on a show of hands, was lost by at least four to one. The church party demanded a poll, which commenced on Tuesday last at one o'clock, and closed on Thursday at four, the numbers being, for the rate, 513; against it, 256. Now when it is recollected that the voting was according to Sturges Bourne's unfair act—namely, votes being in number in proportion to property, you will immediately perceive that the number of persons who voted against the rate was greater than that which voted for it, they being principally poor people with only one vote each, while a great many of the church friends had four, five, and six votes each, with the aid of horse flies to bring them to the poll. This is the first time the question has been tried in this parish.

EAST LONDON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY SOCIETY.—The series of district meetings convened for the purpose of explaining the character and objects of the society having been brought to a close, the committee are now actively engaged in arranging for the systematic agitation in the east of London of the question of church establishments. The following lectures have already been delivered in the Stepney meeting school rooms:—"Church establishments detrimental to the purity and spirituality of the Christian church," by the Rev. Henry Richard; "Establishments incompatible with civil and religious liberty," by the Rev. Thomas Archer; and "Establishments obstructive to the extension of Christianity," by the Rev. Geo. Rose. These lectures have been attended by numerous audiences, and have been listened to with the deepest interest and attention; while, from the forcible reasoning, the striking facts, and the pungent and eloquent appeals which they contained, they have been eminently calculated to advance the cause which the society seeks to promote. We understand that the first monthly meeting of the members of the society will be held early in February, when the Norwich church rate case will be specially brought under their notice.—*Patriot.*

ANOTHER CONVERSION.—Intelligence has been received in Oxford of the conversion of another member of Exeter college, Mr T Harper King, to the Romanist faith, making the tenth member of the university who has conformed within the last three years. Mr King some time since made a munificent donation of an organ to Mr Newman's chapel at Littlemore.

BISHOPRIC OF NEW BRUNSWICK.—The bishopric of New Brunswick will be next established by the colonial fund. The colony is equal in extent to one-half of England, and is rapidly increasing in population. Sir William Colebrook has officially expressed his opinion in favour of the formation of the see, and the Chief Justice, the Solicitor-General, and other leading persons in the colony, are exerting themselves to raise a fund towards the endowment. The special committee, to whom was entrusted the duty of soliciting subscriptions on the same behalf in this country, have estimated the necessary income at £1,200, although they will be prepared to recommend to her Majesty's government the appointment of a bishop as soon as a clear revenue of £1,000 has been permanently secured. A capital of £30,000 will, therefore, be required. The sum of £20,000 from the colonial fund will be appropriated to the purpose.—*Chronicle.*—[A sure subject for a grant during the ensuing session of parliament.]

FREE CHURCH MEETINGS have been held during the past week at Okehampton, Launceston, and Tavistock, and have been attended by deputations from Scotland.

NORWICH CHURCH RATE PROSECUTION.—A penny subscription has just been started in Ipswich for the defence of the defendants in this action.

H. G. WARD, ESQ., M.P., AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.—Mr Ward had an interview, on Thursday, with a deputation from the Religious Freedom Society, consisting of the Rev. Messrs T. Smith, R. S. Bayley, G. Waterhouse, S. Williams, J. Davis, and E. Tasker, with Messrs Aldermen Dunn and Hoole, and Messrs F. Hoole, J. W. Smith, J. Bertram, J. Roebuck, T. Oates, G. Tucker, R. T. Taylor, S. Gatley, P. Beaumont, and other gentlemen, for the purpose of conference upon the following public questions:—Church rates, particularly in connexion with the late insolent attempt to coerce the dissenters of Norwich; the apprehended endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy of Ireland, and the grasping claims of the established church, with regard to popular education; and to public cemeteries. The Revs T. Smith and R. S. Bayley, Mr J. W. Smith, and other gentlemen, explained the views of the deputation upon these subjects; and Mr Ward entered at length into an exposition of his opinions and intentions respecting them, which was highly satisfactory to the gentlemen present. The interview has, we understand, given much pleasure to all who were engaged in it.—*Sheffield Independent.*

SCOTTISH AFFAIRS.

ANOTHER VICTIM TO LORD ABERDEEN'S BILL.—Scarcely was the Tolbooth case out of the hands of the Edinburgh presbytery, before another and a worse case came before them in the settlement of the second charge of the high church. The town council had presented M'Letchie, of Glasgow, and on coming to moderate in his call, the reverend was met with a solitary objector, who declared that the preacher was coarse, harsh, and indescribably vulgar in his preaching; his voice was loud and guttural; his illustrations pompous and far-fetched; and that altogether he was unsuitable for the church. Although there was only one objector out of a congregation of 400, the presbytery paid so much deference to him, that they agreed to defer the settlement, and meet on a future day to consider the objections. Who can say now that Lord Aberdeen's act has given no power to the people?

THE FREE CHURCH AND VOLUNTARIANISM.—Accounts have been received in Edinburgh of the progress of Dr Cunningham among the Christian denominations of New York. There was a large meeting in that city, where a question was put to the Rev. Doctor whether he could suppose a case—such as that the state should grant all that the Free church demanded—in which they would accept endowments from the state. Dr Cunningham's reply is most cheering. He stated that in point of principle he could see no impropriety in doing so; but he added that the Free church had now allied herself to the great brotherhood of dissenters; that they were dissenters themselves, and that they would not do any thing to place themselves, or any other denomination, over the rest of their dissenting brethren. These sentiments we have some reason to know are becoming general, especially among the younger portion of the clergy. Their progress to the truth is most gratifying; and at the same time it must be remembered that they have been led to this very much in consequence of their pecuniary difficulties, which have led them to feel that they could not do without the aid of their brethren, and thus have irresistibly, as it were, forced the parties into close contact and union. We trust the time is at hand when all shall see eye to eye.

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL.—On Monday last, Mr Russell was chosen, by the first ward, to represent them in the Town council of Edinburgh. He was returned through the united efforts of the complete suffragists, dissenters, and Free churchmen. His opponent was also a liberal, but not so devoted in his views.

EDINBURGH VOLUNTARY CHURCH ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this society was held in the Temperance Hotel, on Wednesday evening last—Baillie Gray in the chair. A report of the society's proceedings for the last two years was laid before the meeting, embracing a view of the present condition of ecclesiastical affairs in Britain, and stimulating the friends of the voluntary principle to renewed exertions in the sacred cause. The Rev. Geo. O. Campbell was elected president of the society, in room of the Rev. Andrew Thomson, whose term of office had expired. Councillors Stott and Cruikshank were appointed vice-presidents. The committee were instructed to consider the propriety of having a course of lectures delivered, or of holding a soiree or public meeting, in support of the principles of religious liberty.—*Edinburgh Chronicle.*

During the past week Free church meetings have been held at Plymouth, Bath, and Bristol, attended by numerous audiences.

THE NEW CATHOLIC AGITATION.—A document appears in the advertising columns of the *Chronicle*, consisting of a series of resolutions, agreed to at the aggregate meeting of Irish Catholics, respecting the exclusion of all members of their body from the jury appointed for the state trials, and a list of the places throughout Ireland where similar meetings have been held, and similar resolutions adopted. The list is a bare enumeration of names, of between three and four hundred meetings, those of the chairman, secretary, and one or two speakers being given in each instance. It occupies four long columns.

Correspondence.

CONSISTENCY OF PETITIONING THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR—In the last number of your invaluable paper, "an important question" is raised by "A Lover of Consistency." A question of importance it certainly is, for valueless as the right of petition to a certain extent may have become, there is still value sufficient attaching to it to make it a matter of interest, whether or no we shall resign this privilege. This is proved by the success of our last great effort. And although the chief use of petitions for a time past has been to increase the perquisites of some official in the Commons' House, yet, in the ensuing session, should W. S. Crawford be encouraged to pursue his scheme, they will be destined to a nobler end. For these reasons I cannot think with your correspondent, that the right of petition is of little importance, or that the worthy Commons would feel any thing like chagrin were they not to be favoured with humble petitions; but, rather, that little as they suffer themselves to be disturbed by present remonstrance, they would sit still more at their ease where they not petitioned at all. But this is not the question at issue; for whatever the advantages, if the act be wrong, it is clear that motives of expediency ought never to lure us from the path of duty. Your correspondent objects to the use of this right for two reasons. That by making a request we acknowledge the authority of those from whom we seek it, and sanction the means by which they obtained their power. And also, That it is wrong to honour and do homage to those who have exalted themselves by dishonoured means. Here refuses to acknowledge the authority of the Commons, because they have gained it by illegal means, apparently forgetting that there is hardly any legality connected with the present rule of the land; for, if it be the right of every man to share a part in the formation of all human laws by which he is controlled, it follows as a consequence that, all laws in which he does not so participate, are to him no laws at all; so that every part of the constitution, and every existing law, which has not been sanctioned by the voice of the whole people, must be illegal. No advocate of complete enfranchisement, I should think, obeys any of our present laws because he feels bound by honour or justice, but simply, I presume, from motives of policy, or as a Christian in obedience to the command of God. So that 'tis difficult to understand the distinction your correspondent makes. For, supposing the members of Parliament to be elected without resource to bribery, and in perfect accordance with existing laws, still, representing as they would but a mere fraction of the empire, and the laws upon which their election was based not being legal, they must still be an illegal body. If, therefore, it be wrong to petition the present House, it must be equally wrong to petition any power or body which has not been elected by the voice of the whole empire.

But, sir, I must contend that, as Christians, we are bound to acknowledge the authority of all governments under whose sway we may be placed, gained though it be by deceit, and employed only to tyrannise, so long as such authority does not clash with our allegiance to God. At the time when New Testament commands of obedience to rulers were given, almost all powers were usurpers and despots; and, therefore, in strict justice could have no right to obedience. The subjection which Christ displayed and taught towards the Roman Government was a service to which it had no equitable claim. Our Saviour acknowledged such authority, and we by His gospel are still required to do so; not because it deserves it, but simply to prove that Christianity is no disruption of social order. The honour of religion being of infinitely more importance than the freedom of a world!

Still, whilst we are bound to acknowledge the powers that be, and are not therefore precluded from seeking their favours, the act of doing so, whilst it admits their authority, does not confer its right, or sanction the means by which it was obtained.

Does the slave in seeking for freedom admit the right of his tyrant to oppress, or sanction the means by which he becomes his master? Is not his petition rather a denial of both? Thus, our prayers to the Commons (those which are caused by grievance), so far from implying the justice of their sway, are only so many protests against their tyranny, and virtual denials of their right to command.

In answer to the second objection, that we should not do honour to those who act dishonourably, we have in scripture both a warrant and command to make rulers an exception in their official capacity. Paul, when addressing the representatives of despotic Rome, styled him "Most noble Festus." And when, in his epistles, he commanded to give "Honour to whom honour was due," referring to the governors of earth, there were perhaps none to whom, by the laws of equity, honour was really due. So that the amount due seems to be determined, not by the character of rulers, but by the quantity they may choose to claim, until their demands interfere with the claims of God.

And then, sir, the promise which at the close of our petitions we make, that we will ever pray, seems so ambiguous, that its use appears a mere form, and, if so, cannot be a sufficient obstacle to their presentation. I have sometimes thought it conveyed a promise that, if the present petition were granted, we would "try to send a thousand more," that if encouraged by the success of the present, we should be emboldened in future to make known our wants. But taking it in its liberal and most important sense, bad as the House may be, that can be no hindrance to our prayers. If it be true that the House of Commons is oppressive, unjust, and vicious, this should only make our prayers on their behalf more earnest and frequent.

Most fervently do I pray, and I doubt not "A Lover of Consistency" will unite in my petition, that even this house may be led clearly to understand the law of justice and equality which God hath given, be induced to obey it, repent them truly of their past oppression, and prove the sincerity of their sorrow by cheerfully resigning the power they hold. For glad though we should be to see the rights of the people wrested by moral force from the oppressor's hand. It would give a double value to the prize, were it freely bestowed by the usurper himself.

I am, sir, yours truly,

THO. GEO. GUS. FRIENDERY.

Woodbridge-street, Clerkenwell.

THE PAUPER CHILDREN—ARE THEY ENLISTED FOR LIFE?

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

RESPECTED FRIEND—Is it possible that the directors and guardians of the Marylebone parish have deliberately consented to the enlistment of their boys without even inquiring the terms of the bargain? Did they depute no solicitor, or even one of their own number, to peruse the attestation previously to its execution before a magistrate? Charity forbids the thought, but look at the report of their meeting in the *Morning Chronicle*—they all "think" the enlistment is not for life, but unanimously resolve to "write to Chatham and ascertain!"

I do not find that the result of this enquiry has come before the public; and I therefore delay no longer to remark, that the statute requires that in enlistments for a term of years, the 8th question shall be put to the recruit in the following words, "Are you willing to be attested to serve in the — regiment of — for the period of — years?" And in the case of "unlimited service," it shall be put thus, "Are you willing to be attested to serve in the — regiment of — until you shall be legally discharged?" Now I have been most courteously permitted to examine the "attestation," or bond, used in swearing these children, and I find that the latter form is the one used, and, moreover, that the document contains throughout no mention of a term of years. On the contrary, it bears on the head-line, in Roman capitals, the words, "UNLIMITED SERVICE." I am quite aware that many soldiers, in consequence of good conduct, or when of an age to be no longer serviceable, may be invalided or discharged with a pension—according to the general order, *for the time being*—but from the above, and from other proof which might be adduced, it appears clear, that the right to claim their discharge, at any one period of life, has never been secured to these boys. I was yesterday furnished with the additional names, &c., of six boys sent this week from Brixton for the 55th regiment, with some other information, which, if correct, goes to implicate four other metropolitan parishes! But I must not trespass further at present.

I am, &c., respectfully,

FREDERIC WHEELER.

Rochester, 1st month, 27th, 1844

A NEW OFFICE FOR SIR R. INGLIS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

May I ask for a corner of the NONCONFORMIST in order to preserve the following morceau, extracted from a State Church periodical:—

"We should like to see confided to such a man as Sir Robert Inglis (!!!) the seals of office of religion and education. The creation of such an office* in this country would be a vast good. The daily correspondence of the minister with the clergy, and the ministers of Dissenting denominations would enable him to comprehend and feel the wants, the sufferings, and the grievances (where they existed) of all. The universities and schools of public learning would find in him a patron, a friend, a counsellor, and a judge. The public charities of the country might likewise be placed under his surveillance, and the public religious societies too might be authorized to appeal to him, when difficulties arose in their administration, on when an inadequacy in their revenues might require temporary or even permanent aid. Such an appointment would facilitate the communications between the Church and the State—would strengthen the bond of union subsisting between them—and would put an end to those false, but dangerous hopes which the enemies of the church are now indulging in themselves and exciting in others, that the day will arrive when the principles of voluntarism shall triumph, and when a National Church shall cease to exist. Again and again, then, we shall bring forward and press upon the attention of the present Church of England Cabinet this suggestion."

What a pity it is that Inglis was not installed in office before now, in order that he might be ready to deal summarily with the convention: we might then have F. A. Cox, E. Miall, and their coadjutors figuring as traversers, if not forthwith consigned to Newgate without trial. Through the system which Sir Harry would establish throughout the country, we might have every member of the provisional committee dealt with in the shape of a "take no bail" warrant. But I must conclude, so remain with best wishes for the sources of the convention,

Very respectfully,

W. B. J.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

The Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union met at Birmingham on Monday; the President in the chair.

THE SUPPLY MOVEMENT.

Letters were read from a great number of places, giving encouraging accounts of the movement to seek redress of grievances by moving amendments on motions of supply. The following we extract:—

DARTMOUTH.—Our petition is signed by our mayor, our member's son, one alderman, and ten of our councilmen and a large number of the electors of this borough—this of itself is the best proof that can be given of the approval of the inhabitants of the course adopted by the National Complete Suffrage Union, and, if we can get our member to support Mr S. Crawford's amendment, I think we shall have done our duty.

MARKINGH (Scotland).—You are aware that I have often expressed a decided opinion that a moral force movement, such as ours, must be conducted on broad comprehensive principles, and managed so as to have an educational tendency. It is for practical objects that we advocate organic changes, and though, as Complete Suffragists, we should steer clear of every thing but the six points, as developed in the bill; still, as individual Reformers, the results to be obtained by means of complete suffrage should not be kept in the background. The principal points of these are easily enumerated. From an extended franchise we hope to obtain freedom in trade, in religion, and in land. The League will attend to instruct the people in the first; and, I trust, the English Dissenters will now act up to their principles in disseminating knowledge as to the second. And, as

* Alluding to the Minister of Public Instruction, &c. in France.

to the third, I am very anxious to get some individual M.P. to take it up, and, acting along with the Suffragists, bring an annual motion in the House on that subject. Let us have lists showing that the Whigs and Tories unite in supporting these three unjust laws, and the middle classes will soon become Complete Suffragists. This is the only mode by which the plausible professions of vague liberalism can be demonstrated to be hollow.

I am strongly of opinion that a small party of M.P.s, say a dozen, would soon gain the confidence of the people if they simply unfold a distinct course of really liberal policy. The common people are jealous of all those above them, and why? because for the last generation or two all have in turn either been their oppressors or declined to protest against the misgovernment which has been gradually crushing them. The people have been without power, because they have had no leaders. Deceived alternately by sham liberals and designing demagogues, the masses have become apparently apathetic and sullen. Discontented with the present order of things, they seem to await the opportunity of overturning by violence the present aristocratic institutions, and effecting a physical force revolution. Let any really liberal party state distinctly the leading features of the changes they wish effected, and exert themselves to procure these changes peaceably, by acting zealously yet prudently; and, without doubt, the formation of an honest radical, a complete suffrage party throughout the country will proceed most rapidly. I would have no doubt of the issue, if the leaders could be got—say a dozen men of talent, of the upper classes, who can devote their time to the cause, and who will not allow themselves to be disheartened by the apparent want of success attending their efforts for some time at the beginning, being sustained and urged on to perseverance by the belief that feelings of justice and truth are essential elements in the character of the mass of the British people, and that to avoid a violent revolution in this country British law must now be altered and reconstructed so as to be in harmony with these feelings of truth and justice.—Yours, &c., W. TULLIS.

DARLINGTON.—On receipt of the council's letter and tract on "redress of grievances," I waited upon a few friends of the movement, to consult as to the best means of giving effect to the plan of Mr S. Crawford; and, having agreed upon a requisition to the bailiff to call a meeting of the inhabitants, one was immediately prepared, and a person appointed to procure signatures; but, after much labour, not one could be got from that portion of the community whose influence it is necessary to procure to induce the bailiff to call a meeting; and, knowing that a requisition from the working classes would not be received, we have been obliged, though very reluctantly, to abandon the attempt altogether. The fact is, the middle classes in Darlington, who would be greatly offended if you did not call them Liberals, are yet to be taught their duty to the working classes; at present any attention to the latter by the former is considered by them a matter of great condescension, and they wish their inferiors to know it. The seeds of complete suffrage require to be thickly sown in Darlington by some one, before we can expect to be the desired fruit. I trust the council will see the necessity of turning its attention to the northern counties, as it is only by a course of constant agitation that the public mind can be called away from its long-beaten track of custom.

HAWICK (Scotland).—The association here is making preparations for a meeting to be held early next week, in support of Mr Crawford's plan of moving amendments on the supplies being voted. Scotland is lost just now—we must have able lecturers. The middle classes are very aristocratic; besides, *Sawney* is naturally a cautious, many times over-cautious, being. Appearances indicate a change, however, in the public mind in our favour.

BOSTON.—I regret it is not possible for me to be present at your meeting, but you will see by the enclosed that the object it is to promote has not been overlooked here. We shall memorialise Sir James Duke to support it.

HALIFAX.—A few of the Universal Suffragists had a meeting at Mr Ward's, last evening, and it was resolved to call a public meeting in a week or two; as we have promise of support from Manchester, Leeds, and Bradford, and offering to come over and help the cause of the millions as soon as we are in a state to receive their co-operation. Halifax seems to be now in earnest.

CORK.—Would it not be well to suggest to those members who intend to unite in stopping the supplies, to be as firm in adjourning the House at a reasonable hour; this is equally in their power with the other. I was pleased to find O'Connell approves of your movement with respect to the supplies.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—We shall, I hope, be able to get sufficient names to a petition from Sudbury to send it to the House of Commons by the 31st inst.

STOCK-UPON-TRENT.—I hope S. Crawford's plan may be successful in curbing the power of our aristocratic Governors; for their attacks on O'Connell show a determination to deprive the people of their yet remaining liberties.

HARBOROUGH.—I should hardly have deemed it right to trespass on your patience did I not find myself at a loss to know to whom I must send "our petition" by the 30th inst. The quality, and not the quantity of names attached to this petition is to be regarded as conferring weight upon it, since, if I rightly apprehend their design, it is not to influence the Legislature, but to encourage that knot of ardent-minded representatives, who, with Mr S. Crawford to lead and incite them to the attack, are willing to devote their powers in making a wide breach in those circumvallations thrown up during the past century by our jealous and callous aristocracy, that at some early future time the people may enter and again plant on the citadel of our representative constitution the banners of civil and commercial freedom. In this view of their importance I determined rigidly to observe these two principles in obtaining signatures:—never to solicit one where indifference as to its purport and purpose might be argued from the character and conduct of the individual to exist—nor to increase their number by swaying those who could not intelligently subscribe to the important doctrines involved in the prayer of the petition, and again about to be inculcated amongst politicians. But we have met with apathy where it should not have been. . . . Where would our freedom been—even such remains of it as yet are preserved—where those noble constitutional principles in which our present hope dwells—had Pym been heedful how he associated with Marten, or Sir H. Vane

the younger, declined appearing between his compatriots of less courtly habits and renown! O for a recuscitation of that courage they possessed, and were ennobled with, if but to give us a spirit superior to fear in such trifles as the martyrdom of our names, and resignation of caste! But this is rhodomontade:—I presume a necessity will arise for us again to recur to petitions, as, should Mr S. Crawford's proposed policy seriously ruffle Sir R. Peel's deportment, he will upbraid the delayers as factious men. In such case, by quick appeals to the people, the voice of the constituencies may be again raised in petitions, and adduced as warranty for persisting in the course dictated by "the time and the times."

BOOKING.—I have brought the subjects contained in your two recent communications, under the consideration of the friends here. We fear it is altogether useless to memorialise the Members for this county, but we have resolved to petition Parliament on the subject, and we have one now in the course of signature.

NORWICH.—By Monday's post I will transmit to our representative, Mr B. Smith, a resolution calling upon him to support Mr Crawford.

CUPAR (Fife).—Mr Ellice will be solicited by the electors in each of the boroughs he professes to represent to support Mr Crawford, and if he do not, he will not represent the boroughs again.

REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES—MR CRAWFORD'S PLAN.

MEETING AT LIVERPOOL.

Liverpool, 27th January, 1844.

The council of the Liverpool Complete Suffrage Association having invited W. Sharman Crawford, Esq., M.P., to visit this town on his way to parliament, and deliver an address upon "the duty of all reformers to unite in one common effort by which the grievances of the people may be more promptly redressed," an invitation was thus given to all classes of reformers to attend, when a large and respectable meeting took place at the music Hall this evening. John Smith, Esq., proprietor of the *Mercury*, was called to the chair, and in opening the business of the meeting made some striking remarks as to the causes of dissatisfaction so generally felt by the people, and their growing determination to obtain the elective franchise. It was the want of this that enabled class interests to secure legislative monopoly and to impose the weight of taxation on the industrious classes, while the petitions of the people were treated with silent contempt. The chairman then introduced W. Sharman Crawford, Esq., who was received with the most enthusiastic applause.

Mr CRAWFORD then fully explained the plan of operations he had recommended some time since for the ensuing session of parliament—viz., moving amendments upon the supplies being brought forward, until the grievances of the people were heard. He stated that if the people would back this proceeding by sending memorials numerously signed both by electors and non-electors, addressed to their several members of parliament, urging their support also (although, as in the case of this borough, no attention might be paid to their request), there were members in the house who had in that case resolved to persevere in such a course to the uttermost. He then showed that all who had grievances to urge might unite in this measure without any compromise of principle, and explained how the rules of the present house in respect of petitions, by which all discussion upon them when presented was prohibited, rendered them powerless, and that by this rule, which was adopted in 1836, the greatest advantages by petitioning had been lost by the people.

Mr Crawford was listened to throughout his speech, which occupied an hour, with the deepest attention, interrupted only by frequent bursts of applause.

A vote of thanks to him was proposed by Richard Sheil, Esq., seconded by Mr Thomas Urquhart, and carried by acclamation.

Mr CRAWFORD, in returning thanks, declared that his highest ambition was to serve his constituents and his country to the best of his humble abilities; that he had no desire to be a leader in the course proposed, and that, should any other member be preferred for that purpose, he would cheerfully give way, yet cordially continue to co-operate. Allusion having been made by the chairman to Mr Crawford being a large landed proprietor, Mr Crawford said that, feeling that property had its duties as well as its rights, he felt bound to consider the welfare and comfort of his tenants rather than his own aggrandisement.

Mr LAWRENCE HEYWORTH then proposed a resolution declaratory that unjust representation was the fruitful source of all those grievances of which the people complained, and that the mode proposed by Mr Crawford, by which those grievances can be heard and most likely redressed, was deserving of universal support. Mr Brown seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

The thanks of the meeting were then given by acclamation to the chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

A more zealous and animated meeting has not been held in Liverpool since Mr Vincent delivered his last lectures. The hall was crowded throughout, there being upwards of one thousand persons present.

Mr C. E. Rawlins, of Liverpool, and Mr H. Vincent, of Stamford Hill, have been deputed to present the memorials to Lord Sandon and Sir Howard Douglas, Bart, the M.P. for Liverpool. These documents have already been signed by about 6,000.

GREAT MEETING AT NORTHAMPTON.

The deputation from the council of the Complete Suffrage Union attended a most numerous and spirited meeting of the inhabitants of Northampton, on Monday evening, to explain and recommend the proposal to move amendments on the supplies until the people's grievances are heard and redressed. The meeting was held in the large hall attached to the

Peacock inn, lately the scene of the stirring meeting at which Earl Spencer declared himself a free trader. Notwithstanding that another public meeting was held in the town on the same evening, the hall was crowded to excess, and many had to go away who could not find standing room. Thomas Grundy, Esq., was called to the chair by acclamation. He stated the object of the meeting, and then introduced Mr Sturge, who went fully into the subject of the supply movement, and was followed by Mr Wilson, who handled the question mostly in detail: the sentiments of both the speakers were enthusiastically received. At the close of their addresses, several working men put questions to the deputation, which called forth an interesting conversation, all parties being in the end perfectly satisfied with the justice and necessity of the proposal. Mr Philip, dissenting minister, then moved a memorial, expressive of the satisfaction of the meeting with Mr Crawford's plan, and requesting the members for the borough to give effect to it in parliament, until the people are fully, fairly, and freely represented, according to the principles of complete suffrage. Mr Philip delivered an eloquent and most impressive address in support of the memorial. He stated that Mr Raikes Currie had pledged himself to support Mr Crawford, if backed by an influential number of his constituents. Grey Hester, Esq., seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation; only three hands being held up against it. Votes of thanks were then passed to the deputation and the chairman, and the meeting separated.

BRENTFORD.—The inhabitants of Brentford were gratified, on Friday evening last, with a second visit from Mr Henry Vincent. The meeting was made a public one, in order that a petition might be adopted in favour of Mr Sharman Crawford's plan for forcing upon parliament a consideration of the grievances of the country. The attendance was much more numerous than at Mr Vincent's former lecture, and a great many county electors were present. The subject of Mr Vincent's address was "Civil and religious liberty," and it was handled in a manner which fully sustained that gentleman's credit as an orator in the opinion of his auditors. Many members of the established church, who were present, acknowledged that the arguments advanced were unanswerable, and gave the lecturer great praise for the mild and conciliatory spirit which pervaded his address. At the close of Mr Vincent's lecture, Mr Bontems proposed, and Mr Hammond seconded, the adoption of the petition before referred to, and it was unanimously carried. After a vote of thanks to Joseph Sexton, Esq., the chairman, and three cheers for Mr Vincent and his principles, the meeting separated. It is in contemplation to form a political institute in this town, for the political instruction of the middle and working classes. Many who profess liberal principles say—"We will consent to complete suffrage when the working classes are instructed and prepared for it." We now intend to reply to these persons—"Support the political institute, that by lectures and discussions the truth may be elicited, and the entire people be prepared to enjoy their rights."

BLAIRGOWRIE.—The friends of complete suffrage held a meeting here on Thursday, January 26, when it was unanimously agreed to send a memorial to the member for the county, requesting him to give his support to Mr Sharman Crawford's plan; and a petition in support of the said plan was also adopted and carried without a dissentient voice. Although this is a very wide-spread locality, and notwithstanding the short time there was for canvassing, the petition has received upwards of 300 names, and it is said to be the most honourably signed petition that has ever been got up in this quarter.

HAWICK.—A preliminary meeting of the friends of civil and religious liberty was held in Mr Munro's chapel, on Wednesday last, when the proposal of W. Sharman Crawford, Esq., M.P., to move amendments on supply motions, was laid before them. The meeting highly approved of the proposal, and in consequence a requisition was got up, and signed by a large number of the most influential gentlemen of the town, and presented to the magistrates, who have agreed to call a public meeting of the inhabitants, to be held on Monday, Feb. 6, to consider the propriety of supporting Mr Crawford in his herculean task. The matter is exciting intense interest, and no doubt the meeting will be well attended.

BRISTOL COMPLETE SUFFRAGE UNION.—The weekly meeting of this body was held on Monday evening. The chairman, Mr Hamments, in opening the business, briefly alluded to the progress of the movement in this city since the great meeting at Broadmead, and said it was a source of the greatest pleasure to him to perceive the increased feeling in favour of those great principles which the Union was formed to promote; and the more was he gratified to notice their growth, especially amongst the middle classes of society, many of whom were now flocking round the standard of national regeneration. The meeting was subsequently addressed by Mr Matthews, Mr Johnson, and the Rev. Henry Solly. — *Bristol Mercury*.

SOUTHWARK, MONDAY EVENING.—A large meeting was held this night to hear an address from Henry Vincent on the present state of the country. Luke Embleton, Esq., occupied the chair. Mr Vincent (who was enthusiastically applauded) addressed the meeting in a speech of two hours' duration, which was listened to with marked attention, and loudly cheered throughout. An addition was made to the members of the association, and votes of thanks were unanimously passed to Mr Vincent and the chairman. The principles are making way in this borough; all that is needed is activity on the part of those engaged in their dissemination.

MR SHARMAN CRAWFORD'S PLAN.—A meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, in the Town hall, Leicester, in support of Sharman Crawford's plan of moving an amendment on the supplies. — *Leicester Mercury*.

THE MEETING IN LONDON.—The sub-committee appointed to make the arrangements for the meeting of the Council in London, on the 31st, reported that there was every prospect of the meeting being well attended, and that the proceedings would necessarily be limited to an hour or an hour and a half, in order that the members might be able to attend a meeting of a number of friends from different parts of the country, who were to meet in the same place, to consider the whole subject of Mr Crawford's proposal.

WORCESTER.—The addresses which we noticed last week, in our report of the proceedings of the Complete Suffrage Association, it had been decided on issuing, are now in course of circulation through the city, for signature by the electors and non-electors. They recite the distress under which the people are labouring, arising from insufficient representation; set forth that there is no hope of relief from parliament as at present constituted; and call on our representatives, to whom they are directed, to support Mr Sharman Crawford in his project for stopping the supplies until grievances are redressed, as the only mode by which ministers can be brought to the conviction that it is necessary to do something for the relief of the people. — *Worcester Chronicle*.

ABERDEEN.—The council of the Complete Suffrage Association of this city have commenced a canvass of the electors, which will be continued during this week, the object of which is to obtain their signatures to a memorial to the city member, urging upon him the propriety of supporting Mr Crawford's amendment. There are few liberal men amongst us who will not cheerfully sign such a document; and whatever may be its immediate effect upon our city representative, it must tend, doubtless, to strengthen the hands and encourage the heart of our zealous friend, Mr Crawford, whose task will be difficult and trying. — *Aberdeen Review*.

MR CRAWFORD'S PLAN AND THE MINISTRY.—All this presents prospects sufficiently embarrassing to the ministry, but I should not be surprised if they should find themselves still more annoyed at what may be described as Mr Sharman Crawford's motion for stoppage of the supplies. A small, but very active, band of radical members are determined to act on this plan, and offer every possible resistance, compatible with the rules of the House, to the voting of supplies, until inquiry shall be made with a view to redressing the complaints of the people. The whigs will not join in this movement, although they, as a party, will derive all the advantages which may result from it. This matter, little thought of at present, I can assure you is already the source of much uneasiness to the tory officials in the various government departments; if steadily and unflinchingly persevered in, it may have a wonderful effect on the combination of parties before three months have passed over our heads. — *London Correspondent of Hants Independent*.

General News.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

The debate in the Chamber of Deputies, on the paragraph relative to the recent legitimist demonstration in London, gave rise to a scene which is quite unparalleled in the French legislature, at least since Louis Philippe ascended the throne. It is utterly impossible to describe such a scene of noise, uproar, and confusion. From the very beginning, it was evident that the legitimists, who were sorely put out by the failure of their orator, M. Berryer, at the commencement of the debate, were determined to avail themselves of this opportunity of being revenged. But it was not till M. Berryer made a passing allusion to the famous journey of M. Guizot to Ghent that this scene of tumult reached its climax. It had been previously expected that the trip to Ghent would be made a weapon for retaliation by the legitimists for the attack made upon them; and no sooner had M. Berryer mentioned the circumstance, than the feeling it created was immediately felt through the assembly. "If," said M. Berryer, "we (the legitimists) had gone to the entrance into France to give political council to the King in the midst of a hostile army." This evident allusion to Ghent promised great confusion. Then pointing to M. Guizot, he added, "You glory in it;" and as soon as the tumult would allow, he appealed to the house "if the parallel was not in his favour." M. Guizot was thus changed from the accuser into the accused, and found it necessary to defend himself. He immediately mounted the tribune, when a scene ensued such as has seldom been witnessed. For more than an hour M. Guizot stood in the tribune utterly unable to obtain a hearing. "Yes, I have been at Ghent," said M. Guizot, but beyond that not one word would be listened to. "Never," says the *Constitutionnel*, "have we been present at such a tempest—never in the chamber have we seen so forgetful a tumult." The interruptions came principally from the opposition benches. "It is treason—it is infamous," were vociferated from the opposition in the midst of the ringing of the President's bell, and noise and clamour on all sides. In vain did M. Guizot attempt to proceed. He repeated the words, "I went to Ghent," and the storm immediately recommenced. He then expressed his surprise that he would not be allowed to explain now, though on a former occasion his explanations had been listened to; but this was answered with "No, no, we have always protested," "Treason never prescribes," and other exclamations equally complimentary. M. Guizot

showed admirable coolness and courage under such disagreeable circumstances. He stood the storm coolly, and with indomitable patience. "You may exhaust my strength," said he, in a moment of comparative calm, "but you cannot exhaust my courage." Still he struggled on, commencing with the same unhappy—"I went to Ghent." At length M. Ernest de Girardin brought things to a climax by calling out "You are a traitor," in which he was joined by the opposition. Even in these circumstances M. Guizot was calm. He merely asked M. Girardin to explain what he meant from the tribune, to which M. Girardin replied, "No, I will not mount the tribune, but I tell you from my place that you have betrayed your country and that you passed the evening before the battle of Waterloo with foreigners; that is infamous." Even after this the most opprobrious epithets were thrown out against M. Guizot, and it was only after repeated solicitations on the part of M. Barrot and M. Dupin, that he was allowed to proceed. There probably never was a French minister placed in such a position, excepting in the worst times of the revolution. When M. Guizot's defence was at last heard, it consisted in this—that finding, as all men of sense knew, that the restoration of Louis XVIII. to France was inevitable, he went to Ghent to give his political advice, for he thought it desirable that the Bourbons should return under the conditions of a charter rather than as counter-revolutionists.

At the close of M. Guizot's speech the debate was adjourned until the following day.

On Saturday all the amendments proposed to the tenth paragraph of the address of the Chamber of Deputies were rejected, and the original phrase *Actrice* (branded) was maintained. On this announcement the legitimist deputy, M. de la Rochejaquelein, resigned his seat as a member of the chamber. The address of the Chamber of Deputies was voted by 220 against 190, leaving ministers in a majority of 30 only.

The *Réforme* says that King Louis Philippe, wishing to recompense the services of M. Guizot, had created him Count de Val-Richer, an estate in Normandy, of which that minister is the proprietor.

The *Journal du Havre* says that Admiral Hamelin is to replace M. Dupetit Thouars in the command of the French naval force in the Pacific; adding that M. Dupetit Thouars has been suspended at the request of the British government.

SPAIN.

The new Ayuntamiento law (says the *Times*) had been favourably received, and quietly submitted to, in most of the provinces, notwithstanding the manifesto published by the Progresista deputies, and the constant appeals to revolt of the opposition journals of Madrid. At Grenada, Seville, and other towns, however, the authorities had been obliged to display the greatest energy, to prevent a manifestation of the Progresistas against the law. The representation forwarded to the Queen on the subject by the inhabitants of Seville was drawn up in the most disrespectful terms for the government of her majesty.

A letter from the frontiers of Spain is published in the *National*, which states that "on the 22nd Sagossa was in a state of great agitation. The authorities had demanded their arms from the National Guard, but the men refused to give them up. There was consequently an *émeute*, which was proceeding at the time the courier left."

It was said in Madrid that the new cabinet, in case of a change, which was considered inevitable, would be under the leadership of General Narvaez, who would be prime minister. General Mazzaredo it was thought would go as captain-general to Cuba; Gonzales Bravo as ambassador to the United States, and Colonel Portello would once more be appointed inspector of carabineers.

M. Olozaga has addressed a letter from Lisbon to the electors of Madrid, in which he states that if elected for Madrid he will take his seat in the Cortes. He attributes his flight to the personal danger to which he was exposed, and the threats publicly made against him; and he adds, that as soon as his political friends may think it advisable, he will be ready to appear before the Cortes to answer the charges brought against him.

GREECE.

The Levant packet has brought a summary of the projected constitution of Greece, drawn up by the committee to whom the task was entrusted. The following are the principal articles, which were to be brought under discussion forthwith in the National assembly:—

The dominant religion of Greece is that of the orthodox church of the East. The Greek church, in all spiritual matters and dogmas, is united to the Christian church of Constantinople; in civil matters it is independent, and governed by a synod. There is, nevertheless, freedom in Greece for all religious persuasions.

All citizens are equal before the law. Individual liberty is inviolable.

The slave trade is prohibited. A slave of any nation is free on setting foot on the soil of Greece.

There is liberty of the press, and the censorship is not permitted under any pretext.

There are three powers—the King, the Senate, and the Chamber of Representatives. The initiative in the passing of laws is in all the three; measures of finance to be first voted by the Chamber of Representatives.

The person of the King is inviolable—the ministers alone are responsible.

The King appoints the ministry, commands the armies, declares war, makes treaties, sanctions and publishes the laws, and prorogues and dissolves the chambers.

The crown is hereditary, and passes to the descendants of King Otho, from male to male, to the absolute exclusion of females and their descendants. In default of heirs of King Otho, the crown descends to his brother Prince Leopold.

The King's majority to be fixed at the age of eighteen years.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

THE OREGON TERRITORY.—In the last number of the *British and Foreign Review* is an excellent article on this subject, in which the respective claims of Great Britain and America are succinctly and impartially stated. It is the best account of this *questio vexata* which we have yet seen:—

The country in dispute lies between the parallels of 42 and 49 degrees north latitude, the former parallel being the northern boundary of Mexico, and the latter the acknowledged southern limit of the British possessions. It is bounded on the east by the Rocky mountains, on the west by the Pacific ocean; and comprises a surface of about 350,000 square miles. It is drained by the Oregon or Columbia river and its tributaries. This fine river is the most important feature in the territory; it is navigable as far as the Cascades—125 miles from the ocean, and its width, for twenty-five miles from its mouth, varies from one to seven miles. The Columbia falls into the sea between two headlands—Cape Disappointment or Hancock, and Cape Adams—from each of which a sand bar extends, and over these the waves of the ocean break with terrific violence, as they meet the discharging torrent of the river. The entrance is consequently hazardous at all times, and scarcely possible when the winds are high; and the irregularities of the channel are such, that no vessel drawing more than fourteen feet can proceed far up the river. The Columbia is the only considerable river on this part of the Pacific coast, and its mouth is the only harbour of refuge, with the exception of one other and very inferior port—viz., Bulfinch's or Gray's harbour. In the strait of Fuca, however, which is within the disputed limit, there are two good harbours—Port Discovery and Admiralty Inlet—the coasts of which are described as beautiful and fertile. The agricultural capacities of the country in general do not seem to be very great. Its natural features are a succession of mountain ridges and valleys, or small plains. There are two main ridges besides the Rocky mountains—namely, the Blue and the California mountains, called by the Americans the President range. The country is thus divided into three different regions—the first from the sea to the California range; the second from that chain to the Blue mountains; and the third from thence to the great range of the Rocky mountains, in which the Columbia and its tributaries have their sources. The climate of the first region is described as not favourable to great productiveness. The summer is very dry, there being no rain from April to October, whilst in the winter months the rain is excessive. Indian corn will not succeed, and the produce of wheat is stated at fifteen bushels per acre, which is but little for a virgin soil. The uplands are heavily timbered, and the forests very fine. The California mountains rise to the height of 16,000 feet and upwards from the sea. Advancing from the first into the second or middle region, we find ourselves in a country, drier, more elevated, and less fertile than that nearer the coast. The plains consist of a yellow sandy clay, covered with grass, small shrubs, and prickly pears. The land is not favourable for agriculture, but might be suitable for grazing and sheep, and the climate is healthy. The third region is a desert of steep rocky mountains, intersected with deep narrow valleys called holes, and of wide volcanic plains covered with gravel and sand. The climate is dry in the extreme; there is very little rain, no dewy moisture, and a remarkable difference between the temperature of the day and of the night. This wilderness has no means of supporting a population; and it is only in the first region that any considerable number of inhabitants could ever find the means of subsistence. Upon the whole, therefore, the Oregon territory holds out no great promise as an agricultural field; its value seems to consist mainly in the possession of the Columbia river, and of the harbours in the strait of Fuca.

IMMIGRATION TO THE WEST INDIES.—By the last mail from Jamaica we find that an Immigration bill had passed through nearly all, if not all, its stages in the House of Assembly, its promoter being Mr Jordan, principal conductor of the *Jamaica Morning Journal*. The sum to be raised for the purpose of importing labourers is fixed at £30,000, but we have not seen a copy of the bill to enable us to judge of the details. The meagre reports, however, furnished by the island press, show that the House of Assembly was by no means unanimous on the question; and Mr Geddes, member for St Mary's, stated emphatically "that he had given the subject much consideration, and was obliged to declare it was his firm opinion that there was sufficient labour in the country to carry on all the estates that were productive. It was only the poor soils that could not be carried on. They might think immigration was the only remedy for all their ills. He thought otherwise, and he was sure it would end in disappointment." Mr Geddes was examined at great length before the select committee of the House of Commons on West Indian Immigration, in 1842, and speaks from the experience of twenty-two years' residence in Jamaica. The stipendiary magistrates almost unanimously gave in their reports to the effect that there was a sufficient supply of labourers; and we have the concurring testimony of the missionaries, Messrs Knibb and Phillippo, to the same effect.

THE PRESS IN GERMANY.—We have received, from a private source, a curious and important political document, entitled "Results of the Protocol of the Ministerial Conference, held at Vienna, the 12th of June, 1834," which contains the entire system about to be adopted for repressing all progress of liberalism in the German press. The history of this document is somewhat curious. It was sent out to the United States, published there, remitted home to Germany, and circulated generally. The police sought to get hold of the entire impression, but one copy reached Paris.—*Times*.

RAILROADS IN GERMANY.—As the progress of railroads in Germany is not generally known in this country, the following extract from a letter from Vienna will be found interesting:—

"The great national railroad system is in rapid progress of completion. The line of the north, which is already practicable as far as Olmutz, on the Silesian frontier, will next year be opened as far as Prague. The Trieste railway, which will connect Vienna with the Adriatic and the Italian provinces, has been opened for some time as far as Glocknitz, at the foot of the Styrian Alps. The works are now carried on in the vicinity of Gratz, to which capital the railway will be opened next year, and in 1847 the Trieste line will be completed. A railway treaty has also been concluded between the Saxon and Austrian governments, connecting the Prague line with that of Dresden and Leipsic, which has been continued in the other direction beyond Halle. The Ostend and Cologne line being finished, the only part of the railway communication between the German Ocean and the Adriatic not completed or in progress, is the line between Cologne and Herse. We therefore advise the French to look sharp with their railways, or else the transit to the Levant will take the route of Germany. At all events Anglo-Indians will not be displeased to have two strings to their bow. A few days ago an imperial ordinance appeared for connecting the Trieste railway with that of Venice and Lombardy via Göriz. This line is of course rather strategic than commercial, for it ensures rapidity of communication with Italy, even should the Adriatic ports be blockaded by a hostile power."

Intelligence has been received from Constantinople, dated 2nd inst, which states that some people had arrived, who left Bokhara within three months, and who stated that Stoddart was alive and in high favour, and no public execution of a Frank had been heard of.

On the 22nd inst, a woman was publicly beheaded at Heidelberg, for the murder of her husband.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

POPULAR EDUCATION.

POPULAR.—On Tuesday, the 9th inst., the new daily and Sabbath school rooms in connexion with Trinity Chapel, East India-road, Poplar, London, were opened. About 300 persons assembled to tea, after which an adjournment took place to the chapel, which was filled by an audience evidently interested in the instruction of the young. Mr George Smith, the pastor of the church assembling there, took the chair. After singing and prayer, a series of resolutions affirming the uniform attachment of Protestant dissenters to the education of the people; rejoicing in the recent measures adopted by the congregational conference on the subject of education; and calling for renewed efforts, in this department of Christian labour, from those who had so successfully resisted Sir James Graham's sectarian plan of instruction, was submitted to the meeting, and unanimously adopted. The resolutions were moved and seconded by Henry Althans, Esq., Mr Thomas James, Mr J. Carlile, Mr R. Ferguson, Mr R. Saunders, Mr H. Seaborn, Mr Williams, and Mr White.

On Wednesday evening a meeting of the teachers and others in connexion with the South London Auxiliary School Union, was held at the Union street chapel, for the purpose of considering the necessity of adopting measures for more widely extending the benefits of education amongst the poorer classes, by the establishment of day schools in connexion with the Sunday schools. Henry Althans, Esq., presided. A list of the various schools in connexion with the union was read, from which it appeared that a very considerable number of day and evening schools have been established throughout the district at places where Sunday schools are held. The meeting also considered the contents of two letters addressed by Henry Dunn, Esq., secretary to the British and Foreign School Society, respecting the responsibilities of Sunday school teachers at the present crisis. The particulars of the letters have already been made public.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.—The League held their first meeting for the present year at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, on Thursday evening. The house was crammed to overflowing. Many of the private boxes were occupied by individuals of a class somewhat removed from the station of those who are supposed to be the cordial supporters of the League. At seven o'clock, the chairman (George Wilson, Esq.) and the members of the council came on the platform. They were cheered most enthusiastically. After dwelling on the progress of the League, and recounting the various meetings that have been held, and subscriptions made in various parts of the country, the chairman thus alluded to the Anti-league agitation:—

"We have been told that, gratifying as is our progress, we are to meet with obstructions in the southern parts of England, and we have had our attention directed to the numerous associations that are rising up in opposition to the League, and in support of the corn-laws. We have been told that these meetings have been called and attended by tenant farmers. Now, gentlemen, I do not believe this (cheers), and I will tell you why. In the first place, one of the objects of these meetings is to oppose the National Anti-corn-law League, and the speeches made at these meetings consist, three-fourth parts, in vituperation against the League. Now, the truth unquestionably is, that the tenant farmers have no such ill feeling towards the League. They do not make these speeches. They do not fill the chair at these meetings. They do not write 'M.P.' at the end of their names (cheers and laughter), and 'reverend' before them (cheers and laughter). The tenant farmers know that we have never deceived them. They know that in 1841 we never marshaled them to the hustings, having inscribed on our flags, 'No surrender'; and then, on the first occasion, turning round upon them, and giving them 'the sliding scale,' the 'tariff,' and 'the income tax' (loud cheers). We told them from the first—by our friends Mr Cobden and Mr Bright, in their own dis-

tricts—that the League was for a total and unconditional repeal; that they derived no benefit from that protection which the corn-laws were said to afford them; and that if they continued to impoverish their customers, they must expect to suffer in consequence. That was the doctrine which we preached to them. They heard us, they listened to our arguments, and they then voted in favour of a total repeal; and it will not do for squires and lords to come out with the tenant farmers of England, and say that it is they who are opposed to us (immense cheering). I have read some little, also, of the reports of the proceedings of these meetings—reports which have occupied so many pages in their own favourite newspapers. I first saw an account of what they described to be one of their most important meetings, and which was held at Colchester, where, it is said, there were from 500 to 600 persons present. Now, it so happened, that one tenant farmer, who is a member of the League, was present at that meeting, and he took the trouble to count the persons present. There were neither 500, nor 400, nor 300, nor 200; for the whole number present was 186, including fourteen reporters (loud laughter). Then there was another of these Anti-league meetings in another county, and a good deal has certainly been said of that meeting, and there were just eleven people present (laughter) in the room, and there were about as many columns of matter, reporting their proceedings in one of their favourite papers (renewed laughter). We are next told that a great deal of money has been raised in behalf of their view of the question. Be that so: they are likely to want it: but I will just tell you what course the League has taken in respect to these Anti-league meetings. After the meeting at Colchester, an article was written in our own organ, in reply to the speeches there delivered. A copy of the list of the voters, both for the county and for the boroughs in the county of Essex, was then obtained, and a copy of the article so written in reply was addressed to every one of them, amounting in all to 13,000 (cheers). We shall not disturb their meetings, but, at the same time, we shall take care that every fallacy put forth by their best speakers shall be answered, and that a copy of such answer shall be sent to every voter in the county" (cheers).

The meeting was also addressed by the Hon. E. Bouvier, W. J. Fox, Esq., Mr. Milner Gibson, and J. Burnet, independent minister. The Chairman said that this was the first meeting of those which were proposed to be held weekly in that theatre for some time to come (cheers).

EAST INDIA HOUSE.—A special general court of proprietors of East India Stock was held on Friday, to consider resolutions, of which notice had been given, condemning the seizure of Scinde as impolitic and unjust, and recommending reparation to be made to the dispossessed Ameers. Mr. Sullivan moved the resolutions. The Chairman, who had previously stated from the Earl of Ripon that more papers on the subject would be ready by the meeting of Parliament, moved the adjournment of the court to Wednesday, the 21st of February; which was carried.

ALDERMAN GIBBS AGAIN.—An extraordinary general meeting of the Royal Sea-bathing Infirmary was held at the London Coffee-house, on Thursday, to receive a report from the auditors, who stated that the accounts of the treasurer, Alderman Gibbs, had been examined, and proved to be correct; showing a balance due, by the treasurer to the charity, of £141 on the general account, and £323 on the permanent account. The report was adopted.

THE WILL FORGERIES.—On Friday, Joseph Cuckson, formerly a farmer, but now a constable at Barton-upon-Humber, who had married Fletcher's sister, and Mary Anne Cuckson, Fletcher's niece, were examined. He had told both of them that he had made "thousands" by hunting out unclaimed dividends, giving the names of persons, which they had privately stated to the Lord Mayor; he said that "his rogue of an attorney shared the plunder," and he wanted Mary to personate a lady whose dividends he meant to claim, but she refused. All the prisoners were remanded till Friday next.

DESTROYING A PICTURE.—At Marlborough street police-office, on Tuesday, William Adams, a watch-finisher, a lame young man who uses crutches, was accused of wilfully damaging a valuable picture in the National Gallery. It is the custom to take sticks and umbrellas from visitors while in the Gallery, but not in cases of lameness. Adams was seen to stand for some time before a picture of Jupiter and Leda, by P. F. Mola, and then deliberately to raise his crutch, take aim, and strike it through the picture. The picture, a good specimen of the painter's works, is estimated to be worth £120 or £150; and, although it might be mended, it will now be almost worthless. The prisoner repeatedly said that he had no motive for what he had done; and, at the station-house, he expressed contrition for having destroyed so valuable a picture. Mr. G. Thwaites, secretary to the trustees and assistant keeper, said that there appeared to be no reason for supposing that Adams was insane. He was remanded till the following day, the magistrate having some doubt about his jurisdiction. Adams then stated that his leg was diseased, and that he was on his way to ask Mr. Vincent, a surgeon, to remove it, for it affected his head. He had gone into the National Gallery to relieve his mind, and he could not account for the impulse which made him destroy the picture. He was ordered to pay a fine of £5, the highest the magistrate could inflict, or to be imprisoned for two months.

PROVINCIAL.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

An Anti-corn-law meeting took place at Stroud on Tuesday. Earl Ducie was to have presided, but was prevented by illness. G. M. Scrope, Esq., M.P., took the chair. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed in favour of the League, and the sum of £550 was subscribed—about double the amount of last year's subscription. Among the contributors were Earl Ducie £100, G.P. Scrope Esq., M.P., £50.

NEWCASTLE.—On Monday evening last, the deputations from the League addressed a great meeting in the Music hall of that town. Upwards of 1000 persons were present, and there was not the slightest expression of dissent to the sentiments of the speakers during the evening. Sir John Fife, the Mayor, presided. The total amount of the subscriptions from Newcastle and Gateshead announced was £461 1s. Since the meeting several additional subscriptions have been received, so that the amount is now considerably increased.

North Shields was visited on Wednesday by Colonel Thompson, and R. R. R. Moore, Esq., £22 4s. 6d. was subscribed.

A large meeting, at which about 1500 persons were present, was held at York, on Thursday, to hear Messrs Cobden, Bright, and Colonel Thompson. £115 was subscribed, and some little opposition encountered from a few working men.

A great anti-corn-law meeting was held in the Cutler's hall, Sheffield, on Wednesday night, and was of unusual and exciting interest. Mr. Cobden's speech, as a whole, was one of his happiest efforts, and drew forth repeated rounds of applause. Mr. Bright followed in a luminous denunciation of the restrictive laws—slow in the delivery of his introductory matter, but forcible and rapid when he warmed with his subject, and really brilliant in his peroration. He was loudly cheered throughout. The *Sheffield Iris* says, at the close of Mr. Bright's speech the subscription list was opened, and at the conclusion of the meeting the sums subscribed in the hall amounted, it is understood, to nearly £800; but after the general canvass of the town, which is to be forthwith entered on, it is anticipated that the handsome sum of £1500 will be realised.

ANTI-LEAGUE MEETINGS.

Six hundred gentlemen and farmers met at Warwick on Wednesday. The chairman was Lord Brooke, who was supported by Mr. E. J. Shirley, M.P.; Sir Charles Douglas, M.P.; Mr. Charles Newdigate Newdigate, M.P.; and Sir John Mordaunt, M.P. The chairman began by counseling the agriculturists to observe their usual moderation, "even when attacked by what he would designate as a foul and disgraceful combination." Various objects were imputed to the League. Mr. Newdigate said that the aim of the League was "a reduction of the value of goods and labour, so as to increase the value of their much-loved money." From his knowledge of facts, gained as a magistrate, he repeated an assertion which he had made in the House of Commons, that the League were extensively implicated in the disturbances which took place in the north of the county. Sir J. Mordaunt declared the objects of the League to be the reduction of wages to the continental level, and the setting the agricultural classes one against the other, by spreading unfounded reports; a Warwick paper had reported that Lord Willoughby had sent in his adhesion to the League, but Lord Willoughby had contradicted the report in a letter to Sir J. Mordaunt. The meeting was unanimous in passing the anti-league resolutions, and a subscription was opened on the spot.

A meeting was held on Thursday, at Maidstone, for the purpose of forming an association of the West Kent farmers, to resist the progress of the League. Lord Strangford, Sir E. Filmer, M.P., Mr. J. S. Douglas, M.P., Sir J. Croft, Sir E. Deering, and a large gathering of the gentlemen of the county, with about two hundred tenant farmers, were present. Lord Strangford took the chair. Six hundred pounds were collected before the meeting separated.

A meeting of the "Protective Society" was held at Romford last Wednesday, at which the following list of subscriptions was read, just proving that, instead of being wholly a tenant's question, the landlords expect to reap the lion's share of the counter agitation:—

"The Right Hon. Lord Braybrooke, 105; Sir Edward Bowyer Smith, Bart, £100; General Rebow, £100; John J. Tuffnell, Esq., £100; John Attwood, Esq., M.P., £100; C. G. Round, Esq., M.P., £100; Sir John Tyssen Tyrell, Bart., M.P., £50; Thomas Wm Bramston, Esq., M.P., £50; George Palmer, Esq., M.P., £50; Christopher Thomas Tower, Esq., £50; Robert Gosling, Esq., £50; George H. Errington, Esq., £50; Colonel Strutt, £50; Messrs Sparrow and Co., £50; R. C. Haselfoot, Esq., £25; Wm Cotton, Esq., £35; John Round, Esq., M.P., £20; Jonathan Bullock, Esq., £20; Abraham Johnson, Esq., £20; J. Scrafton Thompson, Esq., £20; Charles Ducane, Esq., £20; T. Dickenson, Esq., £20; Philip Z. Cox, Esq., £20; and Mrs Papillon, £20." Mr Oswald Copland made one of the best and most argumentative speeches that has yet appeared at these meetings, which it was agreed the society should publish.

One of the most numerous attended of the Anti-league meetings was held on Monday, at Steyning, for the purpose of forming the "Sussex society for the protection of agriculture." Among those on the hustings were the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Egmont, the Earl of Winterton, the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Sheffield, the Earl of Abergavenny, Lord Gage, Sir H. Shiffner, Sir C. M. Burrell, Bart, M.P.; Colonel Wyndham, M.P.; Colonel G. Wyndham; the Earl of March, M.P.; Hon. R. C. Scarlett, M.P. About 1,200 persons were present. Mr J. Ellman, an occupying farmer, was called to the chair. The chief incident at the meeting was the speech of the Duke of Richmond, who denounced the Anti-corn-law League; who, if they "were now to succeed, would not stop there, but that they would go on creating anarchy and confusion in the country, taking away from us everything that was dear to us as free Englishmen—they knew that they would attempt to defraud the public creditor of his due [hear, hear]." He concluded with a hint to ministers:—

It appeared to him, also, that those demonstrations would induce the confidential advisers of the Sovereign to speak out plainly on the subject of the corn laws [hear]. He thought that they were entitled to ask, not in the language of menace or of threat, or even, perhaps, of any sort of reproach—that they would be entitled to tell the ministers of the Crown that uncertainty with regard to their views on this subject was an evil of no ordinary magnitude. We want to know (continued the noble Duke) what they are going to be about?—whether they mean to maintain that protection which is still left to us? We will only ask them to speak out, and no doubt they will, when they know the opinions of so respectable a body of the farmers of the country [cheers]. He did not think it necessary to detain them with any repetition of his recorded opinions, further than to say that no consideration whatever would ever induce him to vote against the agricultural interest of this country—he would not sanction the withdrawal of one iota of the protection at present existing. No threats, on the one hand, no cajolery, on the other, should ever induce him to depart from the position which he now occupied. He did not speak from selfish feelings when he declared his belief that on the well-being of the agricultural interest was based the prosperity of the country, and the welfare and happiness of every individual residing in her Majesty's dominions [cheers].

A subscription was afterwards opened, when upwards of £1,000 was subscribed; the Duke of Richmond, the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Egmont, the county members, and other gentlemen, putting down their names for £100 each.

The North Bedfordshire tenant farmers assembled on Friday for the purpose of forming a protective society. It was largely attended by landowners, who (innocently says the reporter), although abstaining from taking part in the proceedings, lest it should be supposed that they regarded the repeal of the corn laws as a landlords' question, were willing, by their presence, to testify their cordial approbation of the efforts now made by the tenant occupiers to protect themselves against the League.

At a meeting for the same object, held on Saturday, about £600 was subscribed. Among the speakers were Sir W. E. Welby, Bart, and Sir J. Trollope, Bart, M.P.

On Thursday, about 400 tenant farmers, of the Isle of Axholme, York, pronounced against the League at Epworth, and subscribed £122.

There was an anti-league meeting at Derby on Friday, for South Derbyshire; Mr C. R. Colville, M.P., Mr E. Mundy, M.P., and about four hundred gentlemen and tenant-farmers, attending. The chairman was a tenant-farmer. The assemblage was hearty and unanimous in the expression of its sentiments. A similar meeting was held at Holbeach, in Lincolnshire, on Thursday.

The Spalding Agricultural Society, at a meeting on Tuesday, adopted an address to Earl Spencer, respectfully requesting him to withdraw his name as president and member of the Royal Agricultural Society of England!

DECLINE OF EVENING SHOPPING.—So unfashionable has night shopping become amongst the respectable portion of our townswomen, that a silk mercer, doing an extensive business, finding that burning gas to no purpose was neither wise nor business-like, has commenced closing his establishment at six o'clock. Let all our fair readers abstain from evening shopping, and the employers will soon find that their own interests will be consulted by closing their shops at seven o'clock in the evening.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT AT DUTTING VIADUCT.—At this place, which is a short distance from the Glossop station of the Sheffield and Manchester railway, a frightful accident occurred on Friday morning. One of the three arches, partly formed with stone, resting on the centres and other supports, suddenly moved and oscillated, when, in a moment afterwards, the ponderous erection fell to the earth, carrying with it the immensely large stones already laid towards forming the arch, and producing a fearful sound resembling the discharge of artillery guns. On the highest part of the centres, when they fell, stood two workmen, who were precipitated among the heavy stones, timber, and mortar. Fortunately there were no other men employed at the time at this part of the works. One of the men was found to have sustained a compound fracture of the elbow joint, with internal injuries, which brought on collapse, and in a few minutes the poor fellow ceased to exist. His fellow-sufferer was not so severely injured; fracture of the ribs had occurred, but with care and attention he is likely to recover.

THE GADDESBY MURDER.—Re-examination of Messenger.—Messenger was again under examination for two hours this day (Saturday) at the county gaol. We are only able to state that Mrs Hodges was again brought forward, having been taken thither in a fly. Some doubt has been thrown upon her testimony. She states that when returning from Gaddesby on the 11th of June, she paid 1s. at Syston to come up by the railway: this is the first-class fare. Now on the morning in question it is distinctly affirmed by the officers of the railway company that no person paying either a first or second-class fare came up from Syston by either the first or second train, by one of which she must have traveled to have arrived at Leicester at the time she states she did. Nothing material was elicited, and Messenger was further remanded to Tuesday, being the fifth time since his re-apprehension. Mrs Hodges was on Thursday assaulted at her house by a stranger, who asked whether she was not the principal witness against Messenger, and rendered insensible by the treatment she received. She has been very ill ever since.—*Leicester Mercury*.

EXTRAORDINARY CHARGE OF PARRICIDE.—In consequence of a variety of information furnished to the magistrates at Taunton respecting the death of a man named William Sealey, which appeared to implicate the two daughters of the deceased in having poisoned him, the body was exhumed on Thursday last, after having been buried since April, 1843, and an inquest upon it was commenced before Mr R. P. Caines, one of the coroners for the county of Somerset. The principal and most important witness examined was Mr William Herapath, the analytical chemist, of Bristol, whose evidence clearly established the presence of arsenic in the stomach of the deceased, as demonstrated by testing the viscera sent to him. The surgeon who attended the deceased in his last illness considered his patient laboured under inflammation of the bowels, and treated him accordingly. Two of the brothers of the prisoners (children), and a sister (about nine years of age), deposed to certain observations made by Mary and Faith Sealey, which tended to strengthen suspicions of their guilt. The inquiry, which lasted till seven o'clock, was adjourned till Saturday. The utmost excitement prevailed throughout the town. The prisoners are two young women. Mary Sealey, who is about 22 years of age, was very decently attired in half mourning, and appeared very much agitated. Faith Sealey, the younger sister, is about 18 years of age, and of a rather prepossessing appearance. She did not appear so much agitated as her sister.

ARTHUR O'NEILL.—A petition for the release of Mr Arthur O'Neill is now in course of signature, and has already received 14,000 names. We wonder it was not long ago set about.—*Birmingham Journal*.

WORKING FEMALES IN COAL PITS.—On Friday last Mr Bleasdale, coal proprietor at Wigan, was fined £5 for allowing females to work in his mines, and in consequence a number of females were discharged from the collieries in the neighbourhood, who, it appears, have been working in the mines for some time habited in male attire.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

The family of the Rev. Thomas Toller, of Kettering, was a few days since a scene of consternation and distress, in consequence of the loss of two children, from five to seven years of age. It appeared that they had been to play out of doors, and after a long absence they were sought for, but could not be found. The alarm spread, and numerous friends were active in their exertions and inquiries, but no tidings could be obtained; the anguish of the parents for several hours can be more easily imagined than described. At length a gig appeared at the door, accompanied by a gentleman from Wellingborough, to which place they had strayed, in search, they said, of Mary, formerly a servant in Mr Toller's family. On their arrival at Wellingborough they inquired for Mr Hobson's, where Mary lives, and, after perambulating the streets for a long time, found their lost favourite, who was much surprised at their appearance, and more so at the tale they told her of coming out for a walk in the hope of meeting her. Mr Hobson lost no time in conveying the little strangers back to Kettering, and restoring them to arms of their distressed parents.—*Northampton Mercury*.

MEPHAM, THE INNOCENT CONVICT.—This young man, who, it will be remembered, was transported about two years since for an illegal attack on Mr Killick, of Wavering street, but whose innocence has been proved, and a free pardon having been dispatched for him, arrived in Maidstone, in good health, on Monday last, to the great joy of his friends. Mephram saw Frost the day before he received his pardon. He was at the Cascade station, about sixty miles from Hobart Town, in the bush, and acted as a schoolmaster, on which account he was exempt from labour in the forests. Williams had the misfortune to break his leg by a tree falling on him three days before Mephram left. Jones was employed as a constable to watch the working party in the bush; he told Mephram on the eve of his departure that he would give ten thousand pounds, if he had it, to change places with him.—*Maidstone Gazette*.

MR WARD, M.P.—Mr Ward addressed his Sheffield constituents at a multitudinous meeting on Wednesday. He announced that he no longer intended to resign his seat, intimating that politics had been an unprofitable trade, and that deficient means had dictated his original intention, but some sacrifices had set that matter to rights. After a discursive commentary on public affairs, and some cross-examining on his views, Mr Ward received the unanimous thanks of the meeting. Some opposition was caused by the chartists, who were, however, defeated.

TURN-OUT OF COLLIERIES.—The colliers employed at the Poynton, Worth, and Norbury collieries, near Stockport, turned out for an advance of wages on Saturday evening last. For some weeks past a spirit of dissatisfaction had been exhibited amongst them, and considerably less coal than usual had been got, so that the "banks" were empty. In consequence of this proceeding several cotton mills in Stockport were obliged to stop for coals on Wednesday.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

HINTS TO THOSE WHO WRITE FASHIONABLY.—We have been favoured with a copy of the following characteristic note, which was received by a lady from the Duke of Wellington:—"London, July 8, 1843.—Field Marshal the Duke of Wellington presents his compliments to Mrs ——. He really regrets much that he has not been able to read her letter. He entreats her to write in a plain hand, in dark ink, and in few words, what her commands are."—*Nottingham Herald*.

A BARE-LEGGED PEOPLE.—Nearly the whole of the forty-five millions of Russians go without stockings. Most of these would become our customers, if our ports were open.—*Kelso Chronicle*.

PROPOSED ALTERATION BY GOVERNMENT OF THE RAILWAY STANDING ORDERS.—The following declaration of the intention of her Majesty's government to institute an inquiry into the evils arising from the present railway standing orders in the House of Commons, has been published:—"Railway Department, Board of Trade, Whitehall, Jan. 23, 1844.—With reference to the notice given of your intention to apply to Parliament in the ensuing session for a bill to authorise the construction of a railway from — to —, or the amalgamation of the — railway companies, or otherwise (as the case may be), I am directed by the lords of the committee of the Privy Council for Trade, to inform you that it is the intention of her Majesty's government, immediately after the meeting of Parliament, to propose that a select committee of the House of Commons be appointed to consider the standing orders relating to railways, and whether any and what changes ought to be made in those standing orders; and likewise to consider whether any and what new provision for the advantage of the public and the improvement of the railway system ought to be introduced into such railway bills as may come before the house during the present or future sessions, and to report their opinions thereon to the House.

"I am, your obedient servant,
(Signed) "S. LAING.
"To the Chairman, Secretary, or Agent of
the ——— Railway Company."

Postscript.

Wednesday, January 31st, 1844.

IRELAND.

THE STATE TRIALS.

At the sitting of the court of Queen's Bench, Dublin, on Monday morning (the thirteenth day), one of the traversers, Mr John O'Connell, requested permission to make a brief explanation, lest any misunderstanding respecting his opinions should arise from what had fallen from his distinguished counsel, Mr Sheil, on Saturday. He deemed it necessary to state that he could not, under any circumstances whatever, consent to the slightest compromise on the question of the repeal of the union. He never could be a party to any arrangement which might, in the least degree, compromise the inalienable right of Ireland to national and domestic legislation.

Mr Moore, Q.C., then proceeded to address the jury on the part of the Rev. Mr Tierney. Alluding to the institution of this prosecution, and the manner in which it had been conducted from the outset, he strongly deprecated the conduct of the Attorney-general and the executive. If, he asked, the meetings were illegal, why had the government permitted them to go on for such a length of time without prosecuting the parties? The Attorney-general, if he believed those meetings to be illegal and dangerous, had been guilty of a criminal dereliction of duty, as the law officer of the government, in permitting them. The learned gentleman referred to the tardy and sudden interference of the government, on the very eve of the Clontarf meeting, under circumstances which rendered their interposition perilous to the public peace. Mr O'Connell, by an almost super-human exertion, had prevented the people from attending that meeting, and to him the great merit was due of averting the calamitous consequences that must have ensued from any collision between the military and the populace. The learned gentleman proceeded, at considerable length, to review the evidence, contending that the prosecution had totally failed, whilst there was not the slightest evidence of "conspiracy," and concluded by expressing his full conviction that the jury would return a verdict acquitting the traversers.

Mr HATCHELL next proceeded to address the jury for Mr Ray. There were circumstances peculiar to each of the traversers which it was right should be laid before the jury, that they might, as fair and impartial men, see whether the traversers were united in a preconceived plan for overturning the government. Mr Ray was peculiarly situated in regard to the charge in the indictment—he was the secretary to the Repeal Association. They were not to try him for having attended any unlawful assembly—he attended meetings, but he denied their illegality. They were not to try him for published libels, or uttering seditious expressions—he never had done so in his life. Mr Ray performed his duties as paid secretary to the association; that he did so with a criminal intent was the question they were sworn to try. It was not fair to include him in the indictment, for it disqualified him from proving as a witness the honesty and integrity of the motives of the other traversers. The learned gentleman then commented upon the evidence, and contended that neither were the meetings Mr Ray had attended illegal, nor was there any criminality whatever in anything his client had done. All that had been done by him was in his character as secretary of the association; and they could not, he thought, reconcile it to their minds to convict him of conspiracy.

It was about three o'clock when the learned gentleman concluded, and the court then adjourned, in spite of the remonstrances of the Attorney-general. Mr Fitzgibbon, Q.C., on the part of Dr Gray, was to address the jury on Tuesday morning.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—At the meeting at the Conciliation hall on Monday, Caleb Powell, Esq., M.P., took the chair. Both Mr O'Connell and Mr Smith O'Brien were present. After some preliminary business, the latter gentlemen moved the following resolutions:—

"Resolved—That inasmuch as it will greatly conduce to the success of our national cause, if candidates favourable to a repeal of the union be relieved from all expenses connected with their elections, and as, in the present state of the law relative

to bribery, the choice of the electors may be defeated by the smallest expenditure on the part of the candidates in providing refreshment for voters, or in conveying them to the poll, it is earnestly recommended by the Repeal Association that, in the event of a contest for any county, city, or town, the several parishes should send their voters to the poll free of all charge, direct or indirect, to the candidates chosen by the people, to uphold the cause of our country.

"That the thanks of this association be tendered to those professional agents who shall volunteer their gratuitous services in behalf of candidates favourable to a repeal of the union.

"That in case any intimidation be used by landlords or others to prevent electors from voting for such candidates, it is desirable that all the circumstances connected with such intimidation should be made known to the Repeal Association."

Mr O'Connell, in seconding the resolutions, said, he did not know exactly what legal mode would be necessary for him to adopt after the trials; but he would require of the people of Ireland, whatever that should be, to give it their perfect acquiescence (cheers). Although they would obey the law as laid down by the judges, yet they would never consent to the union; and should it be said that the Attorney-general's prosecutions would frighten the Irish people (cheers)? He regretted the diminution of the repeal rent. Mr S. O'Brien gave notice of a motion for the appointment of a committee to watch over the proceedings of members of parliament. The repeal rent was then announced to be £372 14s. 11d., after which Sir Valentine Blake, Bart., M.P., took the chair, and the meeting adjourned to Monday next.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.—The *Times*, this morning, has a short article, evidently founded on official information, in order to prepare the public for the Queen's speech. The following extracts will suffice to indicate its drift:—

"We are much disposed to think that indications of his (the Premier) future policy will be especially avoided in the Queen's speech.

"Advantage will, doubtless, be taken of the unexampled peace—and the prospect of continued peace—by which our foreign relations are now happily distinguished. The sentiments of Louis Philippe towards England may be gracefully reciprocated towards France in Queen Victoria's address to an English parliament. Nor will her Majesty's ministers fail to express their grateful thanks for the blessings of an increasing revenue and a reviving trade. These are tangible benefits, which a nation feels more quickly, and acknowledges more readily, than the fruits of the most profound speculative legislation.

"Of Ireland we apprehend that little will be said; silence on the subject of its evils and their remedies will be justified by the prosecutions which are pending and the commission which is sitting.

"Nor will our expectations be disappointed if, after all, there is not one syllable about the corn law. This silence may be explained by the caution of the minister, the previous inactivity of the agriculturists, and the divisions among the different advocates of free trade."

ANTI-LEAGUE MOVEMENTS.—The papers this morning report two additional meetings in opposition to the Anti-corn-law League, one at Oxford and the other at Tamworth. At the former there was a strong muster of the aristocracy, including five M.P.'s and a large number of clergymen. The speeches and resolutions were of the usual character, but in two instances there was a faint show of argument. Lord Villiers let out the secret of this new movement when he said, "This Anti-corn-law League had taken upon itself to assume a most unconstitutional and dangerous power to influence by money, and by unscrupulous assertions of distorted facts, the election of members of Parliament." "The Oxford Association for the Protection of Agriculture" was formed, and it was determined to commence active proceedings. The meeting did not terminate without a little encounter between Mr Blackstone, M.P., and Lord Norreys, M.P., on the subject of the Canada Corn bill. About four hundred persons were present. The Tamworth meeting was presided over by Mr H. J. Tye, a large landed proprietor, but presented no remarkable feature except the speech of the chairman, in which he endeavoured to argue the question of the corn laws with some moderation.

PRETTY COOL.—It is pretty generally rumoured that G. Marton, Esq., one of the conservative members for this borough, intends shortly to vacate his seat in favour of W. Garnett, Esq., the late high sheriff of the county, whose purchase of the Quernmoor estate, adjoining this town, was made with the ulterior purpose of obtaining the long-coveted object of his ambition—a seat in parliament.—*Lancaster Guardian*.

AMERICA.—On the 3rd inst, in the House of Representatives, Mr Rhett offered a resolution, instructing the committee of ways and means to report a bill reducing the duties immediately on all importations which, by the present tariff, exceed thirty per cent. to thirty per cent., and within two years, on all articles, to twenty per cent., and providing that such duties shall be levied solely for revenue. The House refused to adopt the resolution by a vote of 87 to 112. There was, also, another proposition submitted, that the same committee revise the present tariff, and report a bill based entirely upon the principle of revenue, which was lost by a vote of eighty-three to eighty-four. On the following day a notice, by Mr Tibbatts, for reconsidering the vote by which the House refused to adopt the resolution, was again lost. Other efforts were made during the day to accomplish the same object by resolutions of various forms, but which, however, were all voted down.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

| | Wheat | Barley | Oats | Beans | Pears | Flour |
|-------------|-------|--------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| English .. | 1770 | 1730 | 2060 | | | |
| Scotch | | | 5100 | | | |
| Irish | | | | | | |
| Foreign .. | 1360 | 770 | | | | |

No alteration in prices.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from "Simon Evans," "W. Duggan," "Typo," "Thomas Biddle," "A. Redwin," and "W. of Plymouth," with which we can do no more than gratefully acknowledge.

"T. Russell England." We can understand the objection in reference to tithe, but it does not apply to Easter dues, which would never be preserved to the nation, though the establishment were abolished to-morrow.

"Omicron," does not suit us.

"Theta" must excuse us.

"Veritas" declined.

"Farewell" may see a Cincinnati paper or two at our office, but we are unable to give him any further information.

"Alfred T. Bowser." An amendment being carried, is afterwards submitted to the house as a substantive motion, to which it is competent to any member to submit another amendment.

"W. M." The following are the London addresses of one or two of the radical M.P.'s:—
Mr Hume, 6, Bryanstone square,
— Williams, 12, Park square west,
— Duncombe, 6, Albany court yard, Piccadilly,
Dr Bowring, 1, Queen's square, Westminster,
Mr Fielden, 17, Arundel street, Coventry street.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31, 1844.

SUMMARY.

THE Irish state trials, slowly as they have moved onward, have not been without considerable interest. This, it must be confessed, has not arisen from the secrets which they have laid bare. Now that the case for the crown is closed, we take upon us to aver our belief, that evidence more paltry was never yet paraded in support of charges more absurd. Mr O'Connell might have been indicted for seditious speaking—Messrs Duffy, Barrett, and Gray might have been brought to the bar for seditious writing—all the traversers might have been charged with attending unlawful assemblies—with at least a semblance of proof to bear up the case. But of conspiracy—unless indeed it were a conspiracy to keep the peace, and to enforce upon the Irish people the pursuit of a political end by moral and strictly constitutional means—the Attorney-general has not only not succeeded in giving substantial evidence, but the evidence which he did offer will leave upon every candid mind an impression the opposite of that which he laboured in his opening speech to produce. Out of the mouths of his own witnesses the public may learn the worthlessness of his case. If O'Connell be, indeed, convicted; if the jury bring him in "guilty," then we say, that henceforth political agitation in Great Britain, however conducted, constitutes a state crime. Cobden and Sturge will be the next victims—and out of our own columns, over which he has no control, and for the sentiments appearing in which he cannot be responsible—the last-named gentleman may be found guilty of "conspiracy." But we begin to think that a conviction will not be obtained. The current of evidence, even as flowing from the heights of prosecution, is so strongly in favour of the traversers, that it is difficult to believe in the possibility of any twelve men agreeing in a verdict so palpably in the teeth of the facts deposed to. Sure we are, that should such a verdict be given, it will be without the smallest moral weight, not in Ireland merely, but in England also, and eke throughout the civilized world.

Our last summary brought up the evidence of the government and newspaper reporters, and of the printer of the Repeal association documents. Since then many other witnesses have been examined. The printing of the cards of Repeal associates, members, and volunteers, and the delivery of them at the Corn-exchange, were proved by Thomas Pecker, lithographic artist, Isaac Garner, writing engraver, John Annesley, printer, and Joseph Ainstie, apprentice. The Attorney-general then put in proof descriptive of the character of several of the "monster meetings." He commenced with that held at Tullamore, in July last. John Ulick McNamara, a reporter, employed to take notes by Captain Despard, was the first witness examined. He produced Mr O'Connell's speech, pretty nearly *in extenso*, from a transcript made from the original short-hand notes, which for some reason or other he had destroyed. Then came John Simpson Stewart, a sub-inspector of the constabulary police, and Neale Brown, Esq., resident mag-

istrate at Tullamore, the former of whom showed somewhat more readiness than power to damage the traversers by the character of his testimony. John Johnson, head constable in the Sligo constabulary, and John Maguire, head constable of the police, deposed to the chief facts connected with the meeting at Longford, held the 20th of May last. There was an attempt made to make out that the multitude marched to the spot in military order, but a sharp cross-examination demolished it completely. The next meeting to which attention was called, was that convened at Mallow, on the 11th of June. John Jolly, head constable of the Cork police, gave a formidable description of the cavalry and footmen who went to the meeting, with bands playing and colours flying; but the pomp of his language was sadly peeled off by a few ingenious cross-questions, and he was compelled to admit that the people were perfectly peaceable, and that he saw "nothing worse than the music." Henry Godfrey, constable, who equivocated, and when detected said, "I do not understand you;" and Henry Twiss, and John Taylor, sub-constables, gave evidence respecting the meeting at Baltinglass, held on the 6th of August last. The second-named party narrated a snatch of conversation, held between two men, at the distance of half a mile from the place of meeting, and about an hour after the assembly had dispersed, whereupon an argument was raised as to the admissibility of the evidence, and the court deciding against it, the jurors were requested to erase it from their notes. The Clontibret gathering was deposed to by police constables M'Cann and William Thompson; the Tara meeting, convened on the 15th of August, by James Walker, a policeman, and Captain Despard, a resident magistrate at Trim, who heard that 2,000 men had come to it from Shilmallier, about 70 miles from Tara! The Clifden meeting, held in the district of Connemara, was described by another police constable, John Robinson. The mounted horsemen present on that occasion were stated to have been above a thousand—a formidable array of cavalry—but then it turned out that most of them were Connemara ponies; many of them carried double, a man and his wife; few of them had saddles, and some no other bridle than one made of "suggawn"—rope and bogwood twisted together. At every one of these meetings the women were numerous—fun was the order of the day, until the commencement of proceedings; and the people behaved themselves peaceably, and dispersed in good humour. Mullaghmast was the last meeting brought upon the stage, and it produced a lengthened discussion as to the admissibility as evidence of a printed document describing "the Mullaghmast massacre," which James Heley, a police constable, stated to have been sold by thousands. The court admitted the document, although the connexion which the traversers had with it was not pointed out.

The whole of Thursday was occupied in reading articles from the *Nation* and *Pilot* newspapers, the counsel for the traversers being permitted to put in whatever pertinent matter appeared in the same papers, tending to give a correct idea of the sense in which such articles should be interpreted. By this means they were enabled to exhibit the best and most favourable portions of O'Connell's speeches, side by side with the more questionable matter put forth by his supporters. After the newspaper extracts had been gone through, a Dublin police inspector was examined, touching the Arbitration court, at Blackrock, near that city. No case happened to be decided by the arbitrators on the day of his presence there. He went in uniform, and he was treated with the utmost courtesy. There were no official dresses, no oaths administered, no fees received. Each party stated his case, and the award was adjourned to the next meeting. At this point the Attorney-general suddenly and unexpectedly closed his case.

On Saturday Mr Sheil opened the defence of the traversers. He had risen from a bed of sickness, and was labouring under indisposition—but never was forensic eloquence more powerfully wielded. Lucid in arrangement, irresistible in argument, sparkling with poetic imagery, rapid in manner, and full of manly pathos, his speech, like a winter's flood, bore away before it the heap of rubbish which the Attorney-general had laboured for ten long days to accumulate in the public mind. The charge of "conspiracy," which it had been attempted to fix on the traversers, he laid open to the common sense and common honesty of his auditors, as the only one which would suit the purposes of government, because the only one which would fasten upon Mr O'Connell the speeches, writings, and acts of other men. That the repeal of the union was a legal object of agitation, he showed by a rapid review of some of the prominent features of Irish history. With a giant's arm he demolished the *dictum* of the Attorney-general, that the strong language employed by Saurin, Bushe, and Plunket, before the act of union was passed, became meaningless, as soon as that act received the royal assent. The multitudinous meetings held by Mr O'Connell he paralleled by others held by orangemen during the whig administration, and the strong but peaceful language resort-

ed to by the Liberator, he skilfully contrasted with the furious and semi-rebellious diatribes of Mr Shaw, now recorder of Dublin. The charge of attempting to seduce the army from their allegiance he put out of court, by showing how, as in the case of orange lodges, men go to work to compass that end. Against the insinuation that Mr O'Connell had ulterior objects in view, and that his exhortations to peace, law, and order, were used as blinds only, until the hour was ripe for bringing his physical force into the field, he set the whole life of O'Connell—traced in vivid lines his progress from youth upward—his repudiation of French assistance—his avowed detestation of American slavery—his denunciation of O'Connor chartism. Then, to give the jury a brief glimpse of the inner man, he narrated one of the most beautiful and touching anecdotes we have ever heard, illustrative of his promptitude to assist a fallen political foe. Having thus cleansed the character of the great agitator from every aspersion, and exhibited him in a light of moral beauty, he closed with a splendid peroration, appealing to the humanity, the love of justice and fair play, the patriotism, and the consciences of the jury. The speech occupied him upwards of five hours in delivery, and it was not without the severe reprehensions of the bench that the plaudits of those who thronged the court could be repressed. Mr Moore was to follow on Monday, on behalf of Mr Tierney, catholic priest.

In England the battle between free traders and landocracy is fast losing the character of a skirmish, and will now, ere long, come to a real struggle. The Anti-League movements are gaining strength. Meetings, professedly of tenant farmers, and no doubt for the most part really so, have been held in several places, to wit, Warwick, Romford, Derby, Maidstone, Steyning, and other localities of lesser note. When the aristocracy commence subscriptions they can usually give the go-by to the middle classes, and subscriptions paid by them to uphold the corn laws are certainly, in a worldly sense, money well laid out. At the meeting of the Buckingham Conservative Association the "farmer's friend" made no dissatisfied remarks upon the ministry, which we take to mean that they are at one with him; and at that of the Sussex farmers at Steyning, the Duke of Richmond intimated his confident expectation that government would speak out for the permanence of the sliding scale. The League, on the other hand, are not inactive. They meet every misrepresentation in argument by the circulation among electors of its express answer in their organ. They too have had their meetings at Sunderland, Newcastle, Shields, York, Stroud, and have commenced their weekly campaign at Covent Garden Theatre. If they would but let in the strength which they possess out of doors upon the House of Commons, taking Mr Sharman Crawford's plan as its conductor, they might send such an electric shock along the ministerial bench, as would fairly startle its occupants from their self-confident repose.

At present the plan seems to be left entirely to the prowess of the complete suffragists, nor will they fail, we are persuaded, in the arduous duty now before them. We have already enumerated several important boroughs, in which a memorial to their respective members has been adopted, requesting them to join "the forlorn hope." To these we have now to add Liverpool and Northampton, and we trust that the meeting to be held at the Crown and Anchor, Strand, this evening, will give a new impulse to this most important movement.

It may not be out of place here to direct attention to the letter of Mr Wheeler, on "the enlistment of drummer boys in her Majesty's service for life."

THE COMING SESSION.

WE pretend not to have received the mantle of prophecy—we lay no claim to a knowledge of what is passing in men's hearts—we have no access to state secrets. If occasionally we venture to cast the horoscope of the future, we do so, not by consulting the stars, but by calculating the effect of the laws of human nature presented to our notice in certain definite combinations. When, two years since, we proclaimed our conviction, much to the dissatisfaction of several of our readers, that the Anti-corn-law League would not realise their avowed expectation of wresting repeal from the present parliament, we based our prediction on the assurance that the corn laws were in the keeping of men to whom they were literally their all, and who, consequently, would dare revolution itself, by which they could not lose more, rather than consent to the abolition of a monopoly from which they gained everything. The League, we believe, is thus far at one with us now—and, hence, they have turned from the House of Commons to the constituencies. The aristocracy are sagacious enough to perceive that the real contest at issue, whatever may be the field of battle selected, is between the ruling few and the oppressed many—between exclusive privilege and common right; and so far as their power of resistance is concerned, and their determination to offer it to the last, it matters little whether the ground of contention

between them and the people be, the corn laws, the suffrage, or the church. The same weight will have to be moved in any case—and that is, unquestionably, the best lever to apply, which will give to the many the most powerful purchase.

Forming our judgment of the same staple materials—close observation of the workings of human nature—we anticipate a stormy session, but not a disastrous one. The first stage of Sir Robert Peel's premiership was through the region of plausibility—the second was marked by sullenness, broken only by an occasional snarl—the third will be anger somewhat bridled in by fear—the last will be recklessness, determined to do or die. In his first session, he had free trade maxims in his mouth—a revised sliding scale and a new tariff in his hands. Then all was complacency towards his opponents, whom he hoped, by skilful management, to disarm and ultimately to subdue. Contrary, however, to his expectations, he failed to jerk the weapon out of their hands, and a fresh encounter became inevitable. During his second session, he was chiefly passive—doggedly resolved upon not doing—content with defeating, by large majorities, the questions raised by his opponents—yet showing at intervals, as in the Factories Education bill, the Irish Arms bill, and the Chelsea Pensioners bill, the teeth of his power. Again he is about to be assailed, and, as he well knows, with still more decisive vigour. In what manner will he receive the onset? Not now with plausibility—the day for that is over—but with an air of roused determination—a mixture of fierceness and of fear. Look not, this session, for liberal professions and tinsel measures. In all probability, he will resort to neither, for neither have availed him in days gone by. Look into his speeches for a reflection of Anti-League associations, and into his measures for a shadow of Irish state prosecutions. He is not yet desperate—and we speak of him throughout as the mere puppet of the aristocracy—and, therefore, unless greatly incensed by the goads of opposition, we anticipate from him no active virulence of mischief—but he is losing his temper, and his heart is swelling within him. We shall not be surprised, consequently, at a striking change in his tones, and a frequent resort to minatory declamation:—

“My fate cries out,
And makes each petty artery in this body
As hardy as the Nemean lion's nerve.
Unhand me, gentlemen;
By heaven, I'll make a ghost of him that lets me.”

The opposition which will be offered to Sir Robert Peel will, no doubt, be various, but, in the main, unsuccessful. The first corps, comprising the ex-whig ministers, their friends and allies, and the numerous adherents to their policy, who still cherish a hope of their return to office, and to whom official gratitude may hereafter bring substantial benefit, will adopt a somewhat more showy line of tactics than of late they have deemed expedient. Eschewing every proceeding as factious which might at some future time be pressed upon themselves—born and educated monopolists, and anxious only by shadowy compromises to retain the system which best suits their interests—opponents far more of the existing administration than of the fundamental principles of their policy—yet driven upon the necessity of doing somewhat which may recover for them a lost reputation—they will be likely enough to exhibit in their plans, their resolutions, and their speeches, the energetic liberality of former days. We should not be surprised at their proposing an amendment to the address, so framed as to assert no political truth which can hamper them hereafter, but yet to catch as many votes as possible, from the various sections of the opposition. They will choose Ireland for their battle-field; and on Irish subjects they will resort to the use of maxims which they are not prepared to assert in relation to purely British questions. Their line of opposition, however, will be strictly conventional and parliamentary. Protracted debates, conducted with some warmth, and affording opportunity for high-toned professions, will be the sole weapon which they will consent to wield against the ministry. They will be no parties to crippling the resources of government. They will offer no obstruction to the voting of supplies. They will rate the premier soundly for his inconsistency, and hurl against him charges of imbecility and temerity. They will represent him as hurrying on the nation to the abyss of ruin; forfeiting its reputation and humbling its power abroad, and sowing at home the seeds of discontent, anarchy, and revolution; but they will not refuse to him the power of doing as he lists. They will arm him with money, men, and stores to his heart's content. In a word, they will fight for office, but they will not contend for the people.

The free-trade school come next. We are at a loss, we confess, to anticipate their plan of campaign. Forming a conjecture from some of the trivial signs which have here and there peeped out during their autumn and winter agitation, we doubt whether they have any. They know by past experience how barren of results is every direct attempt to force the House of Commons into concession—and we fear they are not prepared to de-

viate, with Mr Sharman Crawford, from the dull routine of proceedings. It may be, that at the present moment their prevailing inclination is to leave parliament to itself, and to appeal from its judgment to that of the constituencies. Yet are we not without hope that the tone of the monopolists may suggest to them other counsels—and that conviction may ere long be wrought into their minds, that the time is come to brave all obloquy, and discard all terms of conventional usage, and that the only chance of affecting the landocracy lies in withholding from their government the supplies which intoxicate them. What is now passing in Ireland may, perhaps, open their eyes to their own danger, and teach them that ministers with a well-paid army at their back, granted by the forbearance of their own foes, will defy and laugh to scorn the most vigorous agitation.

The Irish repeal party will probably absent themselves altogether from the house.

The little band associated with Sharman Crawford will, we expect, rather show the way to success than obtain it. Few in numbers, they will nevertheless be more dreaded by the minister than all the other political sections put together. Their method of attack is such as skilfully to set at nought the power of a majority. The example may prove contagious. A few bold aggressions upon modern parliamentary etiquette may do much to break the ice for other parties. Opening, as we think such a movement ought to open, with a well-considered amendment to the address, and taking the lead for a few supply nights in forcing important topics upon the notice of the House, it may possibly be followed by other sincere parties. The instrument is available, not merely for the complete suffragists, but for all who are intent upon obtaining redress of a grievance. The experiment is a grand one—the materials with which it must be made are, we fear, scanty, and in other respects defective; but we entertain not a doubt that, be the immediate issue what it may, Mr Crawford's plan will eventually prove the wedge with which popular power shall rive asunder the compact force of aristocracy, which until now has defied impression.

POST OFFICE REFORM.

A PAMPHLET published by Mr Rowland Hill, containing a brief summary of his evidence before the Post office committee of the last session, interspersed with explanatory remarks, has been sent to us by the author. It affords us a vivid illustration of the obstructions thrown in the way of every earnest reformer by government officials, from the highest to the lowest, and constitutes another pressing argument for seeking, as the only efficient remedy of legislative and administrative abuses, a full, fair, and free representation of the people. Mr Rowland Hill was far too single-minded to be permitted to retain office for any lengthened period in a department so distinguished for jobbing as the Post office. Nothing could escape his vigilant eye; no tricks could impose upon his intelligent mind; neither smiles nor frowns could warp the honesty of his heart. We cannot wonder, therefore, having regard to the parties with whom he had to deal, that his valuable services were most unceremoniously and ungratefully dispensed with, and we earnestly trust that some member of the legislature will probe the rottenness of the department with which he was connected, to its very bottom. We have not time to give an analysis of this pamphlet, but shall allow Mr Hill, in his own language, to state his case, and shall leave it to produce its due impression upon our readers.

On the full efficiency of the means I propose (he says), I am willing to stake my reputation. The offer which I made before leaving the treasury to continue my general services without any remuneration, I am perfectly willing to renew for this specific object, pledging myself that if the arrangements be left to me, I will effect—

1st. An hourly delivery in London, so arranged as to reduce the time occupied in the interchange of district post letters by about one half.

2nd. A delivery of general post letters throughout London to be completed by nine o'clock in the morning; and

3rd. Such an extension of time for receiving late letters in the evening as will enable the public, by sending to offices to be established near the railway stations, to post letters, in cases of emergency, to a very late hour, say a quarter past eight.

All this to be accomplished without any material addition to the present expenditure, and, assuming the accuracy of the post office evidence, without any addition whatever to the labours of the men. Indeed, with the selection of my own men, I should like no better fortune than to contract to effect all that is here set down at the present cost.

In conclusion, I must repeat that if in this pamphlet I have limited my attention to portions only of the late evidence, the selection is made merely for brevity. It would be impossible, without extending these remarks to a most tedious length, even to touch upon all the points in debate. There is not a single one, however, I most emphatically declare, from the discussion of which I have the least disposition to shrink; nor, I maintain, a single material point on which my positions were shaken by the post office evidence—all apparent effect of the kind being referable to such misrepresentation, distortion, or suppression, however unwittingly employed, as has been exposed in these pages. The parts selected, though more easily put in a striking light, and

more important in their consequences than some others which have been passed over, are, nevertheless, but a fair sample of the general mass.

If, however, there should be any desire to pursue the subject, there will be found in the appendix to this little work (p. 45) ample materials for so doing—it will there be seen how little the post office authorities accord with each other, or even with themselves; and a use of the references there given to the evidence and other documents will easily show that these contradictory statements have, in nearly every instance and every shape, an important bearing on the various matters in dispute.

I trust I may now be considered as having done all that in me lies towards urging the completion of my plan, and the advancement of post-office improvement in general—as also to evince my perfect readiness, and, indeed, earnest desire, to bear the whole weight of responsibility, on the sole condition that I may be entrusted with the power which alone can render that responsibility just or even real. To quote my last official letter to the chancellor of the exchequer, I was “willing to proceed step by step, making the adoption of each measure dependent on the success of those which precede it; to engage to take no step attended with additional expense till I had provided for the same by a previous economical improvement; and, in short, to submit to any arrangement, whatever may be its pecuniary privations or its inconveniences, provided only that it did not interfere with my ability efficiently and promptly to work out this plan.”

In the results of the plan, if fairly and skilfully carried into effect, I retain undiminished confidence; indeed, the fact that, to the extent of its execution, its results have fully corresponded with the expectations originally held out, is itself the best guarantee for the success of the whole. I may also appeal to the fact, that in such matters of detail as were committed to my care—the introduction of stamps for instance, which the post office denounced as expensive, troublesome, and open to forgery, the success on experiment has remained undisputed. That the present incompleteness of the plan is in no way attributable to me, is fully manifested by my correspondence with the treasury, given in the appendix to this pamphlet—indeed no charge on the subject has ever been made.

Under these circumstances what remains for me to do? So long as there is no opportunity of advancing the public benefit, and so long as the absence of all power relieves me in justice from all responsibility, it is my earnest wish to retire from labours so heavy as those in which I have now for many years been engaged; to avoid conflicts which, though I have not shrunk from them when necessary, have always been repugnant to my feelings, and remote from my habits of life; and, if possible, to recruit that health which both these causes have seriously impaired. My hope, therefore, is, that I may not again be compelled to obtrude myself on the public notice by such misconception and misrepresentation as render reply a duty at once to myself, to the numerous and valued friends who have lent me their aid, and to the public at large.

The errors now attending the working of the plan I view with deep regret. Though not in circumstances to disregard the emoluments of office, and far from being so stoical as to slight the pleasure of working out my own plan, I believe I can honestly say, that my great object has been the measure itself; and that my great regret is to see its benefits impaired or perverted. This, unhappily, I cannot prevent; but I retire with, I hope, the well-founded consciousness of having spared no effort; and with the consolation—I must admit rather a selfish one—of feeling that if the present rash course be attended with loss to the revenue, or ill repute either to the plan or financial improvement generally, these are evils for which I cannot be held in any way responsible.

THE QUEEN.—Negotiations are proceeding on behalf of her Majesty for a mansion in the neighbourhood of Cowes, Isle of Wight, which it is intended to convert into a marine residence for her Majesty and the royal family.—*Hants Independent.*

We hear, from indisputable authority, that Mr Roebuck intends to move an amendment to the address upon the subject of the Irish church.—*Bath Journal.*

THE ADDRESS.—In the House of Lords the address, in answer to her Majesty's speech, will be moved by the Earl of Eldon, and seconded by Lord Hill.—*Standard.*

THE MEASURES OF THE SESSION.—The present week begins a new era in the history of commercial legislation; the first great practical triumph of the principles of free trade;—and what is most striking, the announcement of this new epoch has been reserved for the minister of the most anti-commercial country in the world—France. In the Chamber of Deputies M. Guizot spoke as follows:—

“There have been, it is true, commercial negotiations with England, but in these negotiations none of the great industrial interests of France were interested: besides which, these negotiations have led to no result—they were broken off, and have not been renewed. Now, I shall say that people are beginning to discover that all commercial treaties are vicious—people begin to discover that it is better to proceed with the modification of tariffs. The ideas which I have now uttered are also felt in the British cabinet. Thus in any event, then, a commercial treaty with England is out of the case.” We have here the dawn of a new light;—the first disturbance of all those ancient and absurd notions of reciprocity, which have been more productive of jealousies and animosities than perhaps any other source.—*Economist.*

Confessor to the household seems to have been an official appointment, in popish times, similar to that of domestic chaplain to the Queen in the present. The appellation had for many years been dropped; but popery, in its essence as well as in its outward trappings, now coming again into fashion, the Rev. Dr Wesley has resumed the popish name.—*Record.*

The *Morning Post* observes that the Marquis of Westminster has contributed the sum of £500 to National Society for the Education of the Children of the Poor in the principles of the church of England, which it considers as some set-off against his contribution of the like sum to the Anti-corn-law League.

IRELAND.

THE STATE TRIALS.

Eighth Day—Jan. 23rd.

On Tuesday last, in the court of Queen's Bench, the examination of the Crown witnesses was resumed. They were all members of the constabulary force—either officers or privates. Their testimony went to prove the utterance of certain phrases and expressions, to which the law officers of the Crown attached importance, by the traversers and others who spoke at the several "monster meetings." The meetings to which the evidence adduced to-day applied, were those held at Longford, Mallow, Tullaghmore, Baltinglass, Clontibret, and Tara. The policemen founded their testimony upon notes which they took of whatever appeared to them to be inflammatory language, used by the speakers. On their cross-examination it very frequently came out that they were not the most accurate note-takers in the reporting world. Their notes appeared to be rather free translations of the speeches of the repealers. Several laughable scenes occurred in the Court, in which Messrs Whiteside, Hatchell, and Fitzgibbon figured, as is their wont, and convulsed the auditory with merriment. The following rich scene occurred, on the cross-examination by Mr Whiteside of a constable named Jolly, who was brought forward to prove the "military array" of the repealers at the great Mallow meeting of the 11th of June—the meeting at which O'Connell hurled his denunciation at Peel and Wellington, after their speeches in Parliament:—

"Mr Whiteside—The horse were apparently in regular order you say. What do you mean by that? Is it that he was fat and well groomed? That would be orderly, but I did not mean one horse. I spoke of many. There were five or six horses abreast, and five or six more after them. That is what I mean by regular order. Were their tails tied together [laughter]? No. Were there any women behind the men on pillion? Yes. Did they charge you, or you them? Mind, I won't press you about the Cork lady [laughter]. They were all in good humour. Now, where were the cannon and musketry—what became of the dead and wounded in this great battle? I never called it a battle. Did you ever see a battle so fought before? I did not say it was a battle. Had the women their hands round the men? Did you take a note whether they had or had not [laughter]? They had [much laughter]. Did you take a note of that? No. Mr Hatchell desires me to ask you a question, and I do it for his sake, was not that an offence against the Arms act [great laughter]? I can't say. Were the women very pretty? Some of them were. So with banners flying, and women joking, this great procession marched out of Mallow? Yes. Were the bands that accompanied it temperance bands or *timperance* bands—you will understand that better? I don't understand what you mean by *timperance* bands [laughter]. Were they not the temperance and trades bands of Cork and other places? I believe they were. Whether do you think it better that the people should amuse themselves in playing bad music, or in drinking bad whiskey? I should certainly prefer the former. But no matter which they do, they are prosecuted. Did they do anything worse than play music on the occasion? Nothing more than what I have already stated. Was the day of the meeting a warm day? It was calm. Did you refresh yourself while the procession was away? I don't recollect. Where did you dine that day? I cannot say. Did you make any report of this serious battle of Mallow? I did not; I never called it a serious battle.

The following scene took place during the examination, by Mr Hatchell, of police-constable Maguire, who had described the people as coming to Longford in parties:—

"As soldiers marching into a town? Yes. In military array? Yes. Had they their sticks on their shoulders? No. Do you understand the exercise? Did they carry arms [laughter]? No. Did they come to the port? No. Did they present arms when they came up to the General? No. Did they charge [renewed laughter]? No. Well, I have gone through the manual, and I cannot find what they did at all. But you said they were in military array; now, upon your oath, were they marching? Yes. Well, did they halt? Was there a lame man among them that halted [laughter]? Where did they halt? Near the platform. Because they could go no farther, I suppose [laughter]. Upon your oath, did they stand at ease [much laughter]? Some of them wanted to stand at ease, for they marched a considerable distance and wanted rest. Then they halted when they could go no farther, and they stood at ease when they were tired [laughter]? They were marching in military array. Now, do you know the first movement when a party is desired to march? Were you ever at drill? I was. Now, is it not a fact that you must put your left leg foremost? Yes. Now put your best leg foremost [laughter]. Now, upon your oath did you see them put their left leg foremost? No. Well, then, you did not see them march [laughter]? Mr Bennett—My lords, allow me to suggest to the witness to wait till the laugh of the gentleman (Mr Hatchell) is over, before he gives his answer; the jury cannot hear it. Mr Hatchell—Then he will have to wait till to-morrow. You are angry now because I am pleasant [laughter]. (To witness.) Did you ever read Dundas on manners? Yes? A part of it. What part did you read? I cannot describe it. Then you forgot your lesson. Now what do you mean by rank and file? Two deep. Oh, you are too deep for me [laughter]. Upon your oath, is it two deep or single files? I am not sure. Oh, there is a Dundas for you!"

Henry Godfrey, another police constable, described the Baltinglass meeting in August last, where Mr O'Connell and Mr Steele attended. The counsel for the Crown was pressing the witness to refresh his memory respecting this speech of Mr O'Connell, when the following scene took place:—

"Mr Freeman: Did you hear Mr O'Connell say anything to the people about—

"Mr Cantwell (one of the solicitors for the traversers) protested against such a leading illegal question.

"Mr Freeman objected to the interference of Mr Cantwell.

"Mr Cantwell: I am not to stand by and see an attempt made, in a court of justice, to commit a species of legal slaughter upon my clients.

"The Chief Justice: It is not, sir, your duty to interfere.

"Mr Cantwell: My lord, it is my duty to ask the court to do its duty, in protecting my clients from the effects of illegal questions put by counsel.

"The Attorney-general: I am sure the court will do its duty, by properly dealing with Mr Cantwell when he forgets the respect due to it.

"Mr Cantwell: The Attorney-general is quite in error in supposing I have meant any disrespect to the court.

"Chief Justice: Sir, if you shall presume to instruct the court as to its duties, the court will know how to deal with you.

"Mr Cantwell: I presume to do nothing but my duty, which is to call the attention of the court to an illegal leading question. It is no disrespect to the court to say and think that, upon my doing so, the court will do its duty."

Two or three other police constables were examined respecting the Baltinglass meeting, and admitted that it was extremely peaceable. One of them was deposing to expressions among some persons about an hour after the meeting, and half a mile from the town, when counsel for the traversers objected, and a long argument arose, in which the Attorney-general took part. The court ultimately ruled that those expressions could not be admitted as evidence, and the jury were directed to expunge them from their notes. This decision is considered an important one for the traversers.

Ninth day—Wednesday.

Only the three judges sat. The proceedings on this day were particularly dry. The oral evidence was that of James Healy, a constable, who reported the meeting at Mullaghmast; and James Irwin, a constable, who handed in placards posted by the repealers in Liverpool.

Among the documents produced was the handbill hawked at the Mullaghmast meeting, relating the traditional massacre there. This gave rise to a long discussion; counsel for the traversers contending that the document could not be put in evidence, because no connexion had been proved between the traversers and the vendors of the handbill. On the other side, it was argued that the document must be taken among the *res gestæ* of the meeting, as proving its general character. The court decided to admit it.

Some papers from the *Nation* were produced, and occasioned more technical discussions. It was contended by the counsel for Mr Duffy, that his connexion with the paper had not been proved. But the court held that the proof of his declaration of proprietorship in the office of Mr Cooper, comptroller of stamps, who gave evidence on the point, was sufficient. There was more disputation as to how much or how little should be read, all very uninteresting.

Tenth day—Thursday.

The proceedings in the Dublin court of Queen's Bench, this day, were yet duller than on the preceding day; for the whole time was occupied in reading and arguing about papers from the repeal journals. These documents ranged over the whole space of time during which the monster meetings, and the dinners by which those meetings were generally preceded, were held. Mr Justice Burton was still absent on account of illness; the Attorney-general permitted Mr Duffy to leave the court when business began, on the same account. All was as quiet and solemn as an English court, and that, we believe, is by no means the general characteristic of a court sitting for trial by jury in Ireland. No sooner was one article read, than the traversers insisted on others having a different tendency in the same paper being also read; and the clerk, with a voice that became little more than a whisper, and a spirit of perseverance that gave way only to physical exhaustion, continued to read until the court adjourned. It was his field day in the proceedings.

Eleventh day—Friday.

The case for the prosecution in the Irish State Trials was suddenly brought to a close about three o'clock on Friday afternoon. After the newspaper extracts had been gone through, a Dublin police inspector was examined respecting the holding of an arbitration court at Blackrock, near that city; but he never saw a single case adjudicated upon by the arbitrators, and all he proved was, that he had been treated with courtesy and attention.

Another policeman was coming upon the table, probably to prop up the case about arbitration courts, when the Attorney-general rose, and, to the great surprise of those in court, announced that the crown had closed their case.

Mr Moore, Q. C., then informed the court that Mr Sheil, who was to lead for the defence on the part of Mr John O'Connell, had been ill for some days, but that he would be ready to commence at the sitting of the court next morning.

The Chief Justice observed, that the application for so brief a delay was reasonable, and the court adjourned.

Twelfth day—Saturday.

(From the Times.)

The Dublin traversers are on their defence. Their case was opened on Saturday morning by Mr Sheil, as counsel for Mr John O'Connell. The stir and excitement about the court long before the sitting was a sure indication that the monotony which had marked the proceedings hitherto, had received a check, and that something important and attractive was in anticipation. Within, soon after admission was allowed, every place where accommodation could be found was occupied, and the court became crowded to the last degree. At length the judges entered and took their seats; the jury were sworn, and all awaited with anxiety Mr Sheil's address to an Irish jury on behalf of Irishmen, in the cause of Ireland herself. Could a more soul-stirring theme be conceived for the exercise of his fine oratorical powers? The greatest stillness prevailed throughout

the court. The orator rose. How sacred, said he, was the trust reposed in the jury! how great the task he had undertaken! In the fullest conviction of its magnitude he rose to address the court, humbled but undismayed. He had confidence in the jury upon the ascendancy of principle over prejudice in their minds. He had confidence in himself, derived from a thorough conviction of the innocence of his client. The father and son were indicted together—the same blood flowed in their veins—their principles were the same. With the father he had toiled in companionship (not dishonourable, he hoped) in the great work, conceived in the spirit of peace, and in that spirit brought by him to its glorious consummation. From the sanguinary misdeeds imputed to him, he knew him to shrink with abhorrence. It was that persuasion that would sustain him, and lift him to a level with the lofty topics which he should have to treat in resisting a prosecution unparalleled in the annals of criminal jurisprudence in this country. The Attorney-general had read long extracts from speeches and publications, extending over a period of nine months. If his anger were not artificial, his indignation not merely *ex officio*, how was it that in that period he took no step to arrest the progress of evils so calamitous as he had represented? The whole fabric of society was in a blaze. Where was the Castle engine—the indictment—the *ex officio* information? Might it not be reasonably supposed that a project was formed to decoy and ensnare the traversers? Had the Attorney-general adopted a course worthy of his office—the ostensible head of the Irish bar, the representative of its intellect in parliament? Was it fitting that he should sink into the character of a commissary of French police, and, in place of being the sentinel, become the "artful dodger" of the state? No advantage was to be gained by prosecuting the other traversers separately. He fished not with lines, but with a great trammel net, to catch at one great haul the great agitator Levathan himself, an M.P., Tom Steele, three editors of newspapers, and a pair of parish priests. Another object was, that in cases of conspiracy the acts and speeches of one were evidence against another, though used at 100 miles distant. But were editors given to acting in concert? A conspiracy between them forsooth! For what? To sell their papers. They addressed the same mistress, and cordially hated each other. The indictment was for conspiracy alone. No count for attending unlawful meetings. Would that have been so in England? Mr Hunt's case denied it. The prospects presented by Mr Pitt at the time of the Union had not been fulfilled. If English capital had not adventured there, let at least English justice find its way amongst them. He referred to the prosecution on the riots in 1823. Some Catholics wished for a conviction. Fatal mistake! God forbid that he should live to see the time when that court would be of Catholic constitution: he was an enemy to ascendancy of every kind, for he knew that power entailed abuse. A conviction would have been a precedent, and it was their paramount interest to guard against any which might enable an Attorney-general to convert the Queen's Bench into a star-chamber. He would show that his client's object was perfectly legal, and that by legal means he endeavoured to attain it.

The right hon. gentleman then read in a most emphatic manner, from Scott's life of Swift, an extract of considerable length on the prosecution of a man for printing a seditious pamphlet written by Dean Swift on the English government of Ireland. The judges then possessed no fixity of tenure; the chief justice had it intimated to him by a person high in office that the pamphlet was to set the two kingdoms at variance; but the jury, although sent back nine times to re-consider their verdict, acquitted the defendant. Was Swift deterred by any fear of government? His celebrated "Drapier's" letters appeared soon afterwards, containing language as strong as any used by Mr O'Connell. An indictment of the printer was carried in before the grand jury. Swift addressed to them a pamphlet, called "Seasonable Advice;" the bill was rejected; and, said Scott, "thus victoriously terminated the first great struggle for the independence of Ireland." Why were not Flood and Grattan indicted for conspiracy in 1782? The English minister had learnt a lesson from adversity. The colonies were lost, but Ireland was saved by the timely recognition of the great principle on which her independence was founded. If the Irish were 8,000,000 Protestants, would they be used as they were? They were prevented from co-operation in a single object by their wretched religious distinctions.

"Fatal, disastrous, detestable distinctions," said the right hon. gentleman—"detestable, because not only were they repugnant to the genuine spirit of Christianity, and substituted for the charities of religion the rancorous antipathies of sect, but because they practically reduce us to a colonial dependency, make the union a name, convert a nation into an appendage, make us the footstool of the minister, the scorn of England, and the commiseration of the world. Ireland is the only country in Europe in which abominable distinctions between Protestant and Catholic are permitted to continue. In Germany, where Luther translated the scriptures; in France, where Calvin wrote the Institutes—ay, in the land of the Dragonades and the St Bartholomews—in the land from whence the forefathers of one of the judicial functionaries of the court and the first ministerial officer of this court were barbarously driven—the mutual wrongs done by Catholic and Protestant are forgiven and forgotten; while we, madmen that we are, arrayed by that fell fanaticism which, driven from every other country in Europe, has found refuge here, precipitate ourselves upon each other in these encounters of sectarian ferocity in which our country, bleeding and lacerated, is trodden under foot. We convert the island, nobles of the world, into a receptacle of degradation and of suffering; counteract the

designs of Providence, and enter into a conspiracy for the frustration of the beneficent designs of God."

This burst of eloquence was received throughout the court with an involuntary manifestation of applause.

The CHIEF JUSTICE intimated that if the interruption were renewed, the court must be cleared.

Mr SHEIL expressed his regret at the interruption, and proceeded. Ireland made a rapid progress in the course that freedom opened to her. Mr Pitt and Mr Dundas admitted it in parliament. The protestants of Ireland had been contented to kneel to England upon a catholic's neck. They rose to a nobler attitude, and, but for the rebellion of 1798, so denounced with an unaffected sincerity by Mr O'Connell, the catholic question would have been settled in terms satisfactory to both parties. The question now was not one between catholic and protestant, but between the greater country and the smaller, which the greater country endeavoured to keep under an ignominious control. The union was carried by corruption and fear, and many who voted for it lived to repent it. Mr Saurin, amongst others, was said to have opposed it only during its progress through parliament, and not after its completion; so that the most important principles laid down in debate were to be regarded as mere forensic asseverations. Surely the truth of great principles did not depend upon a statute—they were not for an age, but for all times—they were immutable, imperishable, immortal, as the mind of man. They might, perhaps, be reconciled to the terms of the union, bad as they were, had the results been beneficial to the country; but travelers stood appalled at the misery she presented. Were they to attribute those evils to the soil, the climate, or some evil genius who exercised a sinister influence over their destinies?

The right hon. gentleman then traced the history of Ireland since the union. In 1800 Mr O'Connell first spoke against the union. In 1810 he made a speech precisely similar to those for which he was now arraigned. His intentions were pure then, it could not be denied. If the language were the same now, the intention must be identified as the same also. The Catholic Association was created by him, and catholic emancipation was accomplished; but did they think that up to that period the government had been so wise and salutary that the union ought to be regarded as a great legislative blessing to the country; or that if the present indictment could be sustained, an indictment for a conspiracy might not have been preferred against those who had associated themselves to obtain catholic emancipation? How, too, was the Reform bill carried? Who were the conspirators who embarked in that fearful enterprise? Should he answer—Lord Grey, Lord J. Russell, Lord Althorp, and, to crown the list, Sir J. Graham, now home secretary? Let gamblers denounce vice, drunkards denounce debauch, when Graham complained of agitation. It had been recommended that the imperial parliament should sit at certain intervals in Dublin. To that proposition he saw no sound objection; and he then painted a glowing picture of the advantages that would accrue from the realisation of that project. He would not deny that strong speeches had been made by his client and the other traversers, but he denied that they were more exciting or inflammatory than those which were spoken in almost all popular assemblies, whig, radical, or conservative. The right hon. gentleman then referred to the proceedings of large protestant meetings, at which language of the same character had been used. Through the entire mass of thought embodied in Mr O'Connell's speeches, there was a pervading love of order, and an unaffected sentiment of abhorrence for the employment of any other than loyal, constitutional, and pacific means for the attainment of his object. Of the charges against him, his whole life was the refutation. Could they believe that in an old age not premature he could engage in an insane undertaking, in which his own life, and the lives of those dearer to him than himself, and the lives of thousands of his countrymen, would be sacrificed? Could he blast the laurels he had won, and lay prostrate that great moral monument which he had raised so high that it was visible from the remotest region of the world? The right hon. gentleman then concluded his brilliant oration thus:—

There is not a great city in Europe in which, upon the day when the great intelligence shall be expected to arrive, men will not stop each other in the public way, and inquire whether twelve men, upon their oaths, have doomed to incarceration the man who gave liberty to Ireland. Whatever may be your adjudication, he is prepared to meet it. He knows that the eyes of the world are upon him, and that posterity, whether in a gaol or out of it, will look back to him with admiration. He is almost indifferent to what may befall him, and is far more solicitous for others at this moment than for himself. But I—at the commencement of what I have said to you—I told you that I was not unmoved, and that many incidents of my political life, the strange alternations of fortune through which I have passed, came back upon me; but now the bare possibility at which I have glanced has, I acknowledge, almost unmanned me. Shall I, who stretch out to you in behalf of the son the hand whose fetters the father had struck off, live to cast my eyes upon that domicile of sorrow in the vicinity of this great metropolis, and say, "Tis there they have immured the liberator of Ireland with his fondest and best beloved child?" No! it shall never be! You will not consign him to the spot to which the Attorney-general invites you to surrender him. No. When the spring shall have come again, and the winter shall have passed—when the spring shall have come again, it is not through the windows of this mansion that the father of such a son, and the son of such a father, shall look upon those green hills on which the eyes of so many a captive have gazed so wistfully in vain; but in their own mountain home again they shall listen to the murmurs of the

great Atlantic; they shall go forth and inhale the freshness of the morning air together; "they shall be free of mountain solitude;" they will be encompassed with the loftiest images of liberty upon every side; and if time shall have stolen its suppleness from the father's knee, or impaired the firmness of his tread, he shall lean on the child of her that watches over him from heaven, and shall look out from some high place far and wide into the island whose greatness and whose glory shall be for ever associated with his name. In your love of justice—in your love of Ireland—in your love of honesty and fair play—I place my confidence. I ask you for an acquittal, not only for the sake of your country, but for your own. Upon the day when this trial shall have been brought to a termination, when, amidst the burst of public expectancy, in answer to the solemn interrogatory which shall be put to you by the officer of the court, you shall answer, "Not guilty," with what a transport will that glorious negative be welcomed! How will you be blessed, adored, worshiped; and when retiring from this scene of excitement and of passion, you shall return to your own tranquil homes, how pleasantly will you look upon your children, in the consciousness that you will have left them a patrimony of peace, by impressing upon the British cabinet that some other measure besides a state prosecution is necessary for the pacification of your country."

The speech was delivered in the most fervid and impassioned manner, and at the conclusion the right hon. gentleman appeared to be suffering much from exhaustion.

A tremendous cheer greeted him as he sat down, and soon afterwards the court adjourned.

With reference to Mr Sheil's speech, the *Morning Chronicle* says:—Mr Sheil had risen from a sick bed, and was evidently labouring under indisposition. But the cause he came to advocate—the circumstances with which that cause was accompanied and surrounded—the hostile array of the tory bar—and the hostility in other quarters of the court, made him speedily forget his bodily suffering, and he delivered a speech which, the reader will see, from the report in the *Chronicle* of this day, has not been surpassed by the best efforts of the late Mr Curran, and certainly has few parallels in our memory.

Mr Moore, Q.C., says the *Chronicle*, is to address the jury to-morrow (Monday) morning on behalf of the Rev. Mr Tierney. If that learned gentleman should conclude by three o'clock, Mr Whiteside, Q.C., is to follow on the part of Mr Duffy. Indeed, the probability is that both will be heard to-morrow, although the court may adjourn before Mr Whiteside shall have concluded his address. Mr Fitzgibbon, Q.C. for Dr Gray; Mr McDonogh, Q.C. for Mr Barrett; and Mr Hatchell, Q.C. for Mr Ray, are subsequently to address the jury. Mr Steele announced, at the commencement of the prosecutions, that he intended to conduct his own defence. I have heard, however, that Mr Steele has availed himself of the offer of Mr O'Connell, to act as his counsel whilst addressing the jury on his own behalf and upon the general case. Mr O'Connell will probably commence his address to the jury on Thursday or Friday, and it is likely that his speech on this occasion will be one of the most remarkable events in his whole career. Calculating the length of time likely to be occupied by the speeches of the traversers, and the examination of their witnesses, even if a much more limited number than had been supposed should be produced, it may reasonably be assumed that the defence cannot be brought to a close until next week. The Solicitor-general is then to reply upon the part of the crown, and will occupy a day, or the greater part of it. The charges of the judges must occupy at least another day, so that the trial cannot be expected to terminate until the end of next week, being the fourth week from the commencement.

The *Times* reporter says—"I learn from a quarter likely to be well informed upon the subject, that the witnesses for the defence will be limited to the production of some eighteen or twenty gentlemen, liberal protestants, with perhaps an odd 'tory,' or so, among the number, who will depose to the peaceable nature of the various monster meetings held in their several localities, and to the total absence of even an apprehension of any disturbance by the assembling together of large masses of the people, although the contrary, they maintain, is set forth in the bill of indictment and form of warrant, in the language of which the traversers are charged, amongst other overt acts, with having attempted 'to disturb and prejudice divers of her Majesty's subjects in the peaceable enjoyment of their rights and properties.'"

THE MEETING AT CHARLEMONT HOUSE.

The following is a copy of a petition agreed to at the important meeting at Charlemont house, at which the Duke of Leinster presided. The petition remains for signature at Charlemont house, and has already received a considerable number of names of liberal peers, commoners, merchants, and professional men:—

"To the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses, representing the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

"The petition of the undersigned persons having property in Ireland sheweth—

"That your petitioners are deeply interested in the welfare of Ireland, and they view its present state with the utmost alarm.

"That the nation is filled with discontent, and that the proceedings of her Majesty's ministers indicate apprehensions even of a civil war. The army has been greatly increased—barracks have been fortified—armed vessels have been stationed off the coast and upon the navigable rivers of the country.

"That the use of force, though it may be effectual for the suppression of disorder, cannot remove discontent.

"That the discontent which prevails in Ireland is deep-seated and wide spread; and until the causes of it are removed, peace cannot be secured on lasting foundations.

"That the great body of the people are dissatisfied at the general spirit in which they are legislated for and governed. The acts for reforming the representation of the people in Parliament have not given to Ireland an electoral body bearing anything like the proportions to its population which the electoral body of England does to its. And while England, with a population of about fifteen millions, has 471 representatives in the House of Commons; Ireland, with a population of eight millions, has but 105. The act for reforming the municipal corporations of England extends the municipal franchise to all rated householders in corporate towns. In Ireland, though it is a poorer country, the franchise is given only to householders rated for tenements of the value of £10 a year. In England, the established church is the church of the many; in Ireland, it is the church of the few. In England, persons professing the religion of the many are conspicuous on the bench of justice and in the councils of the Crown; in Ireland, although nearly five-sixths of the people are Roman catholics, there are scarcely any Roman catholics to be seen in the higher offices, either of the law or the state.

"That the general character thus given to the policy pursued towards Ireland naturally produces general discontent, ulcerates the public mind, and tends to bring the administration of justice itself into suspicion and disrepute.

"That there are several other matters affecting Ireland which require the attention of the legislature, and, in particular, the whole system of local taxation.

"Your petitioners, therefore, pray that your honourable House will take the state of Ireland into immediate consideration, and adopt such healing measures as may appear best calculated to avert the dangers which now exist, and prevent a recurrence of them."

FEDERALISM.—Lord Stewart de Decies has announced himself a federal repealer. In a letter to the *Dublin Evening Post*, he says that, though opposed to the establishment of a domestic legislature for Ireland, he thinks there are measures which, if adopted, would secure to Irishmen the entire control of their own internal concerns in the imperial legislature, and he wishes to see a national party formed to carry out this object.

INCREASE OF THE ARMY IN IRELAND.—Two companies of the royal foot artillery, and a battery of the royal horse artillery, are daily expected in Ireland, from England; and several regiments, it is said, have received orders of readiness for Ireland. The object of this affected alarm about rebellion is to influence the result of the state prosecution. All through, the orange and government press have adopted the same scandalous system, in utter disregard of the reserve which should be observed pending a trial before a court and jury.

SCOTLAND.

ANTI-LEAGUE MEETING.—A meeting, convened by Lord Elcho as Vice-lieutenant of Haddington county, was held at Haddington on Friday. Among those who attended were, Lord Elcho, chairman, the Earl of Lauderdale, Sir Thomas Buchan Hepburn, M.P., Sir David Kinloch, Mr James Balfour, M.P., Mr Francis Charteris, M.P., Sir George G. Suttie, Mr John Haldane, M.P., and other gentlemen of influence in the county. Resolutions were passed appointing a committee to establish an association similar to the one set up in Essex; and declared it the duty of agriculturalists to petition against any alteration of the corn laws.

EARLY SHOP-SHUTTING.—We are delighted to learn that the proposal of shutting at an earlier hour than hitherto, has been acceded to by the great majority of our shopkeepers.—*Aberdeen Review*.

In the Edinburgh Sheriff court, a Miss Roaf has been sentenced to sixty days' imprisonment, for vending profane and blasphemous books.

POST OFFICE REFORM.—The *Morning Chronicle* informs us that the lords of her Majesty's treasury having decided, in accordance with the recommendations of the select committee on postage, to increase the public accommodation by an extensive change in the administration of the post-office department of the public service, have intimated their intention of devoting the whole of the surplus revenue in carrying out the remaining details of the penny postage measure. This statement the ministerial *Morning Herald* "has reason to believe" is "completely untrue."

THE NEW TAX ON COAL.—The corporators of London, groaning under a weight of wealth which they cannot manage, and a large proportion of which they lavish in toasts and pageants, intend to apply to parliament to lay tax a of five-pence per ton on coal, for the purpose of beautifying and improving the streets of the metropolis. The bill, indeed, we believe, is printed. A more impudent act of piracy than this was never contemplated.—*Gateshead Observer*.

THE COMING SESSION.—We would once more emphatically call upon every member of the liberal party to be in his place upon the first night of the meeting of parliament. His friends report with confidence that Sir Robert Peel will "speak out," both upon the corn-laws and upon Ireland. It is not improbable. His followers seem determined not to tolerate either silence or evasion; and possibly the minister's deference to his party may induce him to frame a frank and straightforward speech for his Sovereign. In this case the address will certainly not pass without an amendment being proposed; and we trust the division will find every liberal member at his post.—*Chronicle*.

TITHE RENT CHARGE.—We learn from Mr Willick's annual supplement to his Tithe Commutation Tables, just published, that the average prices for last year were only 50s. 1d. per imperial quarter for wheat, 29s. 6d. for barley, and 18s. 4d. for oats; while the average prices for seven years, to Christmas last, amount to 61s. 2d. per imperial quarter for wheat, 32s. 4d. for barley, and 22s. 4d. for oats; and each £100 of rent charge in 1844 will amount to £104 3s.

Literature.

The Mothers of England. By Mrs ELLIS. Fisher, Son, and Co.

EVERY reader of the *Spectator* will remember with pleasure the witty delineation of the "Beau's Head," and the "Coquette's Heart." Far more serious and responsible is the task of the author who shall attempt to anatomise and direct the secret springs of a mother's mind! The joys and sorrows—the hopes and fears—the instincts and principles which go to make up that mystery, and which link themselves inscrutably, yet inseparably, with the future character of the man or woman, demand to be laid open with no clumsy scalpel, and to be guided by no ordinary powers of observation and judgment. We do not say that none but a mother can do this effectively; but we think that the probabilities are considerably against its being done by one who has not large experience of the maternal relation. Nothing can require deeper thought—more solid principles—more careful analysis—or a larger induction of facts, to render it successful.

It cannot lie within the compass of an ordinary review to point out extensively the causes which tend to render the performance of maternal duties unsatisfactory. Two things may be hinted at, both of which, in their respective spheres, unfit mothers for the task assigned them. The one is, an undue absorption by the mechanical duties of life; the other, an undue fondness for its superficial accomplishments. Both sink the mother's soul into a nonentity, and disqualify her for the solemn task of representing the God of nature in the midst of her family. Both are faults of the age; and in the family, as indeed throughout society, nothing is so necessary as great, broad, intelligible principles.

In the enunciation of these principles we must avow our opinion that Mrs Ellis is singularly deficient. We have been always disposed to regret, and her last work renews our conviction, the extreme popularity which has attended her writings. We are far from intimating that her works do not contain much upon which our women might dwell with advantage. But when we look on them as a whole, we cannot conceal from ourselves that there is, with an air of dignified superiority, a superficial style of remark,—just ruffling the surface of the subject but doing nothing more, which tends, in many cases, to deteriorate rather than to improve. At all events, if any derive benefit it must be those who have scarcely thought at all; whilst those who have, must, we think, derive positive injury from finding the standard of excellence fixed so low.

Let us not—we are sure it is far from our desire—do injustice to the fair authoress. Her books are, generally speaking, written in a flowing, graceful, and even elegant style, which, though occasionally tainted with vulgarisms, is, on the whole, a most pleasing vehicle for conveying thought. The moral of her works is uniformly good, and they turn invariably in the right direction. But we think of her still as of some ornamental appendage to a pleasure ground, appearing, at first sight, like some vast sheet of water—but, upon nearer examination, neither deep nor abundant.

To take a specimen of what we mean out of the work before us. The third chapter is entitled "the use of a mind." And what is the use of a mind? Is it not to think? And is there a point in education at once so important and so much neglected as that of teaching children to think? To attend—to distinguish—to analyse—to conclude—to reflect—of what unspeakable importance are these!—an importance in comparison of which mere cleverness is a bauble! When, however, we turn to Mrs Ellis's chapter our disappointment is excessive in ascertaining that whilst she treats of ingenuity—readiness in the use of resources—observation of common occurrences—knowledge of habits of animals—drawing—promptitude—activity, &c., these more important points are dismissed with scarcely any observation at all.

"The results," says Mrs Ellis, "to which my ambition for the rising generation points would consist in habits of observation, clear perceptions of form and outline, so as to have the fac-simile of every well-known object impressed without confusion on the mind; in quickness of imitation, and facility of touch, in delineating all visible objects, so as to represent them truly to others; in a capability on the part of men for giving clear directions to workmen, illustrating such directions by outlines at once correct and bold, as well as in uniting utility with taste; and, on the part of women, for copying and designing patterns, marking out with clearness different lines of beauty; but, above all, and here the subject assumes its most important character, for sketching with promptness and precision all specimens in natural history, as well as almost every other branch of juvenile study, so as to strike the eye, and impress the memory of youth—to amuse the fancy, and improve the understanding at the same time."—p. 81.

And this is "the use of a mind!"

Then, too, with regard to "the elements of character"—and we take not the chapter so headed alone, but the following, which treats, somewhat illogically, of the same subject—are justice, conscientiousness, patience, forgiveness, self-denial, no virtues? Yet we do not find them enumerated in the list of requisites.

Some loose remarks occur, relative to "religious influence," in the last chapter. But they do not treat the subject very methodically, and we are sure do not exhaust it.

To conclude. If, according to Addison's definition, good writing be that which is "natural, but not obvious," we admit that Mrs Ellis accomplishes the first; but are equally sure that she signally fails in the second.

Youthful Consecration; a Memorial of Rosalinda Phipson. With an Introduction by the Rev. JOHN A. JAMES. Hamilton and Co.

THE reading of healthy religious biography is a pleasant and profitable exercise. This species of composition, however, is so abundant, that a large portion of it is almost necessarily meagre and vapid. This complaint is often made of youthful biographies, where the characters described are not very fully developed; and where there is little beyond domestic incidents to relieve the remarks and to refresh the reader. In this class of compositions, the partialities of friendship frequently appear; the indulgence of personal and family gratification outweighs regard for general adaptation and utility; and a sickly sentimentalism is substituted for sterling and substantial excellencies. The sacredness of private worth may be marred by too close a public inspection, and by unnatural and extravagant representations. The memoir before us is, in a great measure, exempt from the defects we have noticed. Its subject appears to have been, not only an amiable woman, but an eminent Christian, possessing more than ordinary mental and moral endowments. She was distinguished for early healthy piety—for the depth of her devotion—for her love to the Divine oracles—and for her unwearied assiduity in promoting the cause of Christ. Just in the morning of her existence she is removed from her family, from the world, and the church. Her last days were delightfully calm and peaceful; and their scenes must have been, to all around her, lastingly impressive and instructive. This record of "youthful consecration" is judiciously drawn up, and we think it cannot be read without profit. It has an introduction by the Rev. J. A. James, full of pertinent, racy remark. It is a cheap and admirable book for young inquirers; and is especially adapted for the young ladies of our religious seminaries.

Trial of Pedro de Zulueta, jun., in the Central Criminal Court of London, on a charge of Slave-trading. Reported by J. F. JOHNSON. With introductory and concluding remarks by the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. Ward and Co.

NONE can read this very remarkable trial and not shudder to find to how large an extent the gains of British merchandise arise out of the perpetration of the abominable slave-trade. "Out, damned spot!" "What! will these hands ne'er be clean?" We earnestly commend this pamphlet to our readers. It proves that anti-slavery agitation cannot yet be over. We have a new crusade to come, and this report will aid not a little in giving direction to its movements. Will British opinion sustain the verdict of "Not Guilty" pronounced by a too lenient jury?

The Pictorial Sunday Book. No. 1. Charles Knight and Co.

So far as this valuable, cheap, and most attractive publication elucidates and illustrates the external of God's word, we think it may be employed with much advantage. Whilst, however, we thus commend it highly to parents, we cannot too earnestly caution them against using it in the sense of "Religion made easy." A small sum spent now-a-days at Mr. Knight's repository will give a more precise idea of the localities and costume of the Holy Land than the most laboured descriptions of ancient folios would to our forefathers. Those who look for an instant at this work cannot complain of its expensiveness.

The Church Catechism considered in its Character and Tendency; in a Series of Letters to a Clergyman. By JOHN KELLY, Minister of the Gospel. London: Snow and Co.

THIS is an admirable little pamphlet, cool, calm, and convincing, in tone and argument. It is occasioned by the late Factory Bill, and it forcibly exposes the evils of the system of which the church catechism is the exponent. We hold that catechism to be one of the very worst features of the hierarchical system. There is no greater anomaly of our times that its sustentation by men who deem themselves evangelical.

Old England. Parts 1, 2. Charles Knight and Co. "PAPA—do buy me Peter Parley's tales!" Such was the Christmas placard which has often met our view in London, and perhaps was often pleaded in influential quarters. Children who look upon this very beautifully illustrated work will be sure to ask Papa's to purchase it, and papa's, who love to make the bitter medicine of learning sweet, will not be slow in complying. Each of these numbers contains a wood engraving, in an unique and most beautiful style, of a scene in Westminster Abbey, which equally delights and surprises us, and is worth all the money.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *Report of the Philanthropic Union for Refuge for the Destitute.*
2. *A Voice of Warning against the Writings of the Socialists.*
3. *The Prince of Wales's Library.* No. 1.
4. *Notes on Natural History.* By A. PRITCHARD.

NEW SLAVE-TRADE HORRORS.—Mr Hill, the chaplain of her Majesty's ship the *Cleopatra*, has lately published a work entitled—"Fifty Days on board a Slave-ship," containing the most fearful picture of the horrors of the middle passage. In the month of April last, the *Cleopatra*, whilst cruising off the Mozambique coast, captured a slaver, called the *Progreso*, of 140 tons: the length of the slave-deck being 37 feet, its breadth 21½ feet, and its height 3½ feet. She had on board 447 slaves. A prize crew was put on board, and Mr Hill volunteered his services as an interpreter on the voyage to the Cape. From Mr Hill's narrative of the first two days we take the following:

"During the first watch our breeze was light and variable, the water smooth, the recently liberated negroes sleeping or lying in quietness about the deck. Their slender, supple limbs entwined in a surprisingly

small compass; and they resembled, in the moonlight, confused piles of arms and legs, rather than distinct human forms. They were, however, apparently at ease, and all seemed going on as fairly as could be desired. But the scene was soon to undergo a great and terrible change. About one hour after midnight the sky began to gather clouds, and a haze overspread the horizon to windward. A squall approached, of which I and others, who had lain down on the deck, received warning by a few heavy drops of rain. Then ensued a scene the horrors of which it is impossible to depict. The hands, having to shorten sail suddenly, uncertain as to the force of the squall, found the poor helpless creatures lying about the deck, an obstruction to getting at the ropes and doing what was required. This caused the order to send them all below, which was immediately obeyed. The night, however, being intensely hot and close, four hundred wretched beings thus crammed into a hold twelve yards in length, seven in breadth, and only three feet and a half in height, speedily began to make an effort to re-issue to the open air. Being thrust back, and striving the more to get out, the after hatch was forced down on them. Over the other hatchway, in the fore part of the vessel, a wooden grating was fastened. To this, the sole inlet for the air, the suffocating heat of the hold, and perhaps panic from the strangeness of the situation, made them press; and thus great part of the space below was rendered useless. They crowded to the grating, and, clinging to it for air, completely barred its entrance. They strove to force their way through apertures, in length fourteen inches, and barely six inches in breadth, and in some instances succeeded. The cries, the heat—I may say, without exaggeration, 'the smoke of their torment'—which ascended, can be compared to nothing earthly. One of the Spaniards gave warning that the consequence would be 'many deaths'—'*Manana habra muchos muertos.*'

"Thursday, April 13th (Holy Thursday).—The Spaniard's prediction of last night, this morning was fearfully verified. Fifty-four crushed and mangled corpses lifted up from the slave-deck have been brought to the gangway and thrown overboard. Some were emaciated from disease, many bruised and bloody. Antonio tells me that some were found strangled, their hands still grasping each other's throats, and tongues protruding from their mouths. The bowels of one were crushed out. They had been trampled to death for the most part, the weaker under the feet of the stronger, in the madness and torment of suffocation from crowd and heat. It was a horrid sight, as they passed one by one, the stiff, distorted limbs smeared with blood and filth, to be cast into the sea. Some, still quivering, were laid on the deck to die, salt water thrown on them to revive them, and a little fresh water poured into their mouths. Antonio reminded me of his last night's warning—'*Ya se lo dije anoche.*' He actively employed himself, with his comrade Sebastian, in attendance on the wretched living beings now released from their confinement below; distributing to them their morning meal of 'farinha,' and their allowance of water, rather more than half a pint to each, which they grasped with inconceivable eagerness, some bending their knees to the deck to avoid the risk of losing any of the liquid by unsteady footing, their throats doubtless parched to the utmost with crying and yelling through the night."

Four days afterwards the prize rejoined the *Cleopatra*, and fifty of the unhappy creatures were transhipped; but death will have its food on board a slaver. In fifty days 163 slaves had died! The narrative continues:—

"Friday, June 2.—Previously to setting out for the village of Wynberg, where I promised myself some repose of body and mind, I paid a visit to Sir John Marshall, on board the *Isis*, who welcomed me with his usual kindness; and, on my passage back to the shore, I once more called on board the *Progreso*. Fourteen corpses, six having been added to the eight who died yesterday, lay piled on deck, to be interred this afternoon on the beach."

"Their daily allowance of water is about half a pint in the morning, and the same quantity in the evening, which is as much as can be afforded them."—p. 73.

"They eagerly catch the drippings from the sails after a shower; apply their lips to the wet masts, and crawl to the coops to share the supply placed there for the fowls: I have remarked some of the sick licking the deck when washed with salt water."—p. 61.

Contrast this with the provision made for the slave-trading crew:—

"The cabin stores are profuse; lockers filled with ale and porter, barrels of wine, liquors of various sorts; macaroni, vermicelli, tapioca of the finest kind; cases of English pickles, each containing twelve jars; boxes of cigars; muscatel raisins, tamarinds, almonds, walnuts, &c., &c. The coops on deck are crammed with fowls and ducks, and there are eleven pigs."

We especially commend these extracts (says the *Patriot*) to the attentive perusal of M. Zulueta, of slave-trading celebrity, and his merciful jury! One hundred and sixty-three deaths in fifty days! Deaths of sorrow, torture, and agonising violence! Deaths of women, children, and men, all in the spring of adolescence! And all occurring contemporaneously with the cold-blooded hesitation and reluctance of her Majesty's government and their legal advisers, to carry into effect the power of British law against the aiders and abettors of the atrocious system! If anti-slavery feeling is not utterly extinct, if a particle of that ardour remains, which fired the country ten years ago, if the humanity of our fellow countrymen has not utterly evaporated, we intreat, we implore the electors of every county and every borough to insist on the remedy which they are entitled to demand from their representatives. Within a few days, parliament will meet; and we believe that we have warranty for saying, that certain recent matters connected with the slave-trade will be among the earliest to which its attention will be called.

Mr William Milne, of the London Missionary society, has performed the journey overland from Ningpo to Canton, a distance of 1,300 miles, which he accomplished in 38 days. He was dressed as, and passed of course for, a Chinaman. He represents many parts of the country as extremely beautiful, but others, of large extent, barren and thinly populated.

Miscellaneous.

THE QUEEN'S LATE TOUR.—The interest or curiosity almost universally felt to learn something of those removed by the accidents of birth, or station, beyond the pale of general sympathy, was heightened in this case by personal respect for the character of the individual. This feeling had in itself the charm of novelty; some degree of excitement might, therefore, have been excused, even by the reflecting portion of society. From the aristocrats honoured by the presence of their sovereign, a different line of conduct than the one they followed could neither have been expected nor wished. But "the people" should have borne in mind that there are times when an act of severity towards an individual becomes one of justice to society at large. To "be cruel only to be kind" is often not the less a duty because it is a painful one. On the late occasion the Queen should have been received in one of two ways—allowed either, as a private individual, to "pursue the even tenor of her way" in respectful silence, or, as the nominal head of the state, rendered sensible to the dissatisfaction and destitution of the mass of her subjects. The people of England are unrepresented. Why did they neglect this opportunity of representing themselves? The chief part of the blame falls upon the wealthy and intelligent of the middle classes—it was their duty to have assisted the poor in exhibiting their actual state; instead of congratulatory addresses, petitions for redress should have been presented. It has been a humiliating spectacle to see them squandering their own superfluity, and encouraging those without the actual necessities of life to waste their scanty means upon such empty mockeries as triumphal arches, illuminations, and fireworks. We do believe the Queen to be well-intentioned and intelligent, and as feeling for others' woes as it is possible for any one in so unnatural a position to be; and had she witnessed the naked truth, instead of being met at every step by glittering falsehood, though her heart might have been wrung at the sight of children of as tender an age as her own half starved and miserably clad, and tears of compassion might have adorned her face, instead of gracious smiles, in viewing their heart-broken and despairing parents, she would have returned wiser, if sadder, and with her heart opened to a new class of sympathies, even if no direct public benefit had been the result. As it is, false notions have been increased and prejudices strengthened—every one has done his best to uphold this wretched state of things yet a little longer.—*Philanthropist*.

BOROUGH ELECTORS' MEMORANDA FOR THE YEAR 1844.—We have received the following from Mr Huggett, the indefatigable secretary of the Westminster Reform Registration Society:—

"The electoral year commences with the 31st July, and ends with the 30th of July in the following year. Persons, therefore, who have not occupied premises that give a qualification before the 31st July, in 1843, will not be entitled to be placed on the register for the following year.

"January 1.—Residence within the city or borough, or seven miles thereof, must commence on or before this day.

"March 25.—Overseers of the poor appointed within fourteen days of this date. No poor's rate should be made during this month, as those rates made before the 6th of April, if not paid before the 20th of July, will cause the ratepayer to lose his vote.

"April 6.—Window taxes and poor's rates payable on this day must be paid on or before the 2nd of July.

"June 20.—Notice to electors to pay poor's rates and window taxes on or before the 20th of July to be fixed by overseers on all the church and chapel doors in their parish.

"July 20.—Poor's rates and window taxes, payable before the 6th of April, must be paid on or before this day.

"July 31.—Electoral year commences; occupation of premises must, therefore, commence on or before this day, in order to qualify the occupier to be on the following year's register. Persons entitled in respect of reserved rights must qualify, as though this were the day of election. Overseers to make out list of voters.

"August 1.—Overseers to fix lists of voters on all the church and chapel doors in their parish, to remain there fourteen days. Overseers to keep lists of voters at their residence for sale, and also for inspection without payment of any fee, between the hours of ten and four, for fourteen days.

"August 14.—Last day for exhibiting, inspecting, and selling list of voters. Barristers appointed in the course of this month.

"August 25.—Last day for persons omitted from the list of voters making their claim to be registered. Last day for serving objections.

"September 1.—Overseers to fix lists of claims and objections on all the church and chapel doors; to remain there during fourteen days. Lists of claims and objections kept by overseers between the hours of ten and four for inspection, without payment of any fee, for fourteen days. Lists of claims and objections may be had of the overseers during fourteen days.

"September 14.—Last day of exhibiting claims and objections on church and chapel doors, and for purchasing or inspecting them at the house of an overseer.

"September 15.—Revising barristers hold their court some time between this day and the last of October.

"October 31.—Last day on which the revising barristers can hold their court.

"November 6.—Fourth day after the beginning of Michaelmas term, when appeal cases are heard by the court of Common Pleas.

"December 1.—New register comes into force this day."

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—The decease of Sir F. Burdett having caused a vacancy in the representation of North Wilts, the *Wilts Independent* says:—"It is reported that Mr Sotherton, M.P. for Devizes, will start for the county on the Tory interest, and that Mr Bruges, formerly member for Bath, will come

forward on the same interest for the borough. We have been informed that neither of these gentlemen will be allowed to walk over the course, but that both county and borough will be contested by the liberals.—It is expected that a new writ will be moved for, for Dudley, immediately after the assembling of parliament. A free-trade candidate will be put in nomination, and the agents of the Anti-corn-law League are already actively engaged in preparing for the contest.—A report having been circulated that the Hon. Captain Carnegie, the conservative member for Stafford, was likely to resign his seat, the Anti-corn-law League have deemed it desirable, on the strength of that report, to furnish the electors with their tracts, which are now in circulation, as they intend to contest the borough in the event of a vacancy.

LATE HOURS OF BUSINESS.—This subject now attracts no small share of public attention, and we are glad to find the *Morning Chronicle* bringing it under the attention of mercantile men. In Thursday's city article of that journal the following excellent remarks appear:—"To render the movement for shortening the hours of business really beneficial to the health and morals of the young men engaged in the various establishments throughout the metropolis it must be general, and to be so it should have the countenance of the leading monetary and mercantile houses. The example of the banking interests, in particular, would be attended with the most salutary effect. Money is the life and soul of trade, and if those engaged in business find that their bankers invite them to be more active in their habits, and to have some bowels of compassion for those who live by their employments, the object sought for by the Drapers' Association would soon be carried. We hope it will be successful, whether the bankers co-operate or refuse to assist, and adhere to their present tedious and exhausting hours of labour. The progress already made leads us to expect that the public mind is now sufficiently well informed to render the successful progress of this movement safe; but we should much rather see it supported by the powerful influence of the banks, than delayed by their callousness, or in any way thwarted by their opposition. There is nothing asked of a nature calculated to alarm the most timid conservative. No revolutionary spirit could be detected in the claim of the Drapers' Association by the scrutiny of the most acute. The brokers in Mincing-lane appear to have been considering the propriety of closing their labours at an earlier hour on Saturdays, and the spirit of improvement seems now to be really moved in support of this most valuable and benevolent purpose, which will be a great and permanent boon to many thousands, unaccompanied by the slightest injury to any individual."

THE SLAVE TRADE.—The government at St Petersburg has recently promulgated an order to the effect that, conformably to article four of the treaty between Russia, Great Britain, Austria, and Prussia, the Russian government have delivered to the British cruisers the first mandate which authorises those cruisers to stop and to search any merchant vessel sailing under the Russian flag, that may be suspected of being engaged in the inhuman traffic.

Newspapers can be sent free of postage to all the British possessions in the West Indies and North America, Brazil, and South America, France, Spain, Portugal, and India, *via* Southampton, Hamburg, Sweden, and Norway; to Holland, and countries through Holland, *id.*; the United States, *2d.*; the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, South Australia, New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land, and New Zealand, *id.*; India, *via* France, *2d.*; closed mail, *3d.*

The trial of Thomas Jennings, the captain of a vessel implicated in the slave trade, is postponed until August next. The court has released him on a very moderate bail.

THE TOBACCO TRADE.—From the result of the interviews had by deputations of the tobacco trade with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, it is inferred that no reduction of duty is contemplated, but that there will be an alteration in the excise law affecting the article. This will be news for many in the trade.—*Globe*.

THE BANK CHARTER does not absolutely expire in the present year, but that there is this year a "break in the lease," as it were: if notice of termination be given, on behalf of the public, any time between the 1st of August next and the 1st of February 1845, the charter will fall in one year thereafter; if such notice be not given before the 1st of February 1845, it cannot be given at all, and the charter will go on till 1855. In the coming session, therefore—for there will be no other opportunity—the House of Commons must decide whether notice shall be given, or the advantage of the "break" be forfeited.

The British Temperance Association are about attempting a national revival, and in order to diffuse information by the means of lectures, publications, and tracts, contemplate raising £10,000; the money to be appropriated entirely to the diffusion of knowledge on the subject.

The (conservative) *United Service Journal* says, "The overpowering aristocratical influence is converting the whole army into an article of monopoly, and will, unless checked, become a mere job for the benefit of the few at the expense of the many."

LORD BROUGHAM AND HIS TAPESTRY.—The manner in which Lord Brougham became possessor of the splendid piece of tapestry presented by the King of the French, is so good a court anecdote that we are sure our readers will like to hear it. When in Paris, on his way to Cannes, in a conversation with the King, his lordship happened to mention a design he entertained of purchasing a specimen of this famed manufacture for Brougham Castle; and no

more was said or heard on the subject till his homeward return, when again at the Tuilleries his Majesty said, "Well, my lord, I suppose you have been to get your tapestry?" His lordship stated that he had not; for, on considering the expense, he found such an ornament would not suit his purse. "But," said the King, "I am informed that you really have got a very fine piece." His lordship shook his head, but when he retired to his hotel this little bit of pleasant mystification was explained by discovering that a brilliant copy of *Les Sanguiers* of Snyder, had been ordered and presented to him by Louis Philippe.—*Court Journal*.

MR SHARMAN CRAWFORD AS A LANDLORD.—A tenant upon one of Mr Sharman Crawford's estates in the county of Down had expended a considerable sum, towards the close of his lease, in improvement. His farm had been held upon a long tenure, at a low rent. He naturally felt some anxiety respecting a renewal of his lease, when it fell out. Upon Mr Crawford's return from London, at the close of one session of parliament, the tenant waited on him to state that his lease had expired. "I am aware of that," said Mr Crawford; "some persons have called here about your farm." The applicant was considerably troubled with this intimation, and began to urge the improvements which he had recently effected. In reply, Mr Crawford told him that he had observed all these improvements, considered them to be very judicious, and requested to know the amount of rent which the tenant thought he could pay, and yet live comfortably. The farmer stated his expectation that he could pay 24s. per acre—the acre, we understand, was Irish plantation measurement. "I have been offered 26s.," was the answer; coupled with the intimation that, if the farmer would call upon a day named, the matter might be settled. He called at the time appointed, and found a lease ready for his acceptance, prepared on fair and equitable terms in other respects, and with the rent fixed neither at 26s., the amount offered by others, nor 24s., the value that he had himself named, but at 22s. per acre; and without any demand for a fine, great or small, on the renewal. The landowner in this instance carried out in his practice those principles that as a legislator he professed.—*Banner of Ulster*.

It is computed by qualified authorities that the annual loss of life from filth and bad ventilation is greater than the loss from death or wounds in any modern wars in which this country has been engaged. The poor law commissioners state, that "of the 43,000 cases of widowhood, and the 112,000 cases of destitute orphanage, relieved from the poor's rates of England and Wales alone, it appears that the greatest proportion of deaths of the heads of families occurred from disease propagated by removable causes."

Amongst the mass of cheap literature which issues weekly from the press, we observe a new periodical, entitled "*CLEAVE'S GAZETTE OF VARIETY*," printed very neatly, in an octavo form, and promising to devote itself to the spread of information similar to that contained in *Chambers's Journal*. In fact it contains as much matter as that journal, while its price is but ONE PENNY. We trust this pretty little penny periodical will supersede some of the trash which is so assiduously scattered over the nation.

NEWSPAPER ADULATION.—It has repeatedly been a matter of complaint in the newspapers that her Majesty, in her walks at Brighton and elsewhere, has been incommoded by impertinent curiosity, and very proper censures have been addressed to the unmannerly offenders. But does not the press itself, in its own way, set the example of the same sort of vulgar, intrusive inquisitiveness? Is it not rather hard upon the Queen that she is not allowed to enjoy the privacy which is respected in the case of any gentlewoman in her own house? A few days ago we saw it pompously announced that her Majesty inspected (such is the great word for small occasions) the joints of meat in the larder at Windsor; and a hundred trifles of the same sort are made the theme of *Court Circular* and *Court Journal* paragraphs. The mobbing in the streets does not seem to us a whit more annoying and unmannerly than this mobbing in the press. In both there is the same low, vulgar, prying spirit. To perfect a prison in irksomeness, Bentham proposed to make it a panopticon, so that the prisoners should feel that there was an eye upon them in every action, every motion, every gesture. The press does its worst to render the sovereign's palace a panopticon, and to subject its possessor to the annoyance of constant watching, and the ridiculous blazoning of every ordinary word and action.—*Examiner*.

NEW EXPLOSIVE POWER.—We have received some information, on which we can safely rely, respecting a discovery which is likely to triumph over the difficulties that have hitherto seemed insurmountable to those who have previously pursued their experiments in the department of science to which it pertains. The discovery relates to a combination of chymical substances so subtle, and yet, when brought into action, so immense in their explosive results, as to bid defiance to resistance by opposing substances, however powerful; while the period of the explosion can be so nicely regulated as to enable those who employ them to calculate with precision the time when the explosion shall take place. The form of this tremendous missile is globular; the size of it regulated to the purpose for which it is to be employed. It may be propelled from a musket, a cannon, or a bomb, and may be thrown with the same precision as common balls or shells. At four yards' distance a ball prepared of the substances we have alluded to, and after lying in a perfectly quiescent state for several minutes, split asunder a large tree, in the presence of our inform-

ant. So perfectly harmless is this extraordinary agent, except under the conditions which are essential to bringing its occult powers into action, that the balls may be carried about in the pocket, or conveyed from place to place, in any number, in boxes, or barrels, without the slightest danger; it may even be cast down, with any force, upon iron or stone, and no other effect be produced than if the ball itself were a solid mass of stone or iron.—*Globe*.

STEAM CARRIAGES AGAIN.—We understand that a steam carriage has at last been invented, adapted in every respect for locomotion on common turnpike roads. The carriage for passengers is something like an ordinary stage coach, and is propelled by an engine on two extra wheels, fitted closely to the earr of the carriage, but which can be disconnected at pleasure. A company has been formed to bring it into use.—*Chronicle*.

A brother of Mr Wakley, the coroner, has got an appointment, worth a couple of thousand pounds a year, under Lord Lyndhurst's Bankruptcy act. His appointment has struck every one here with surprise; but I may, perhaps, be able to account for it. It would seem that Mr Wakley has declared that he does not intend to stand for the metropolitan borough of Finsbury again, and that he has lately made it his frequent boast that he has dined with the Duke of Wellington.—*Hants Independent*.

THE POST OFFICE AND MR HILL.—Leaving the evidence of the late postage committee buried in the ponderous and unwieldy blue book has not altogether availed the post office as a baulk to public scrutiny; for the indefatigable Rowland Hill has made an analytical examen of the evidence, and published it under the title of "The State and Prospects of Penny Postage." Not only did the committee neglect their duty of reporting, but the evidence of the chief witness was cut short, a defect in some measure supplied by the remarks in the present pamphlet. The endeavour of the officials has been to convict penny postage of failure—first, by inventing promises which Mr Hill never made, to show that those promises have not been fulfilled; next, by tampering with the actual results, to disguise the amount of success which it has defied hostile ingenuity to prevent; and, finally, they seem to intend a bold manoeuvre to swamp success altogether, by destroying the postage revenue, with the *malice prepense* of imputing the destruction to Mr Hill's scheme, which to the last they pertinaciously refuse to carry out. Such is the case established by the pamphlet. One amusing section of it consists of assertions made by the officials—by the same at different times, or by different men in the same department—diametrically contradicting each other on the most material points. Out of its own many mouths the office stands convicted of knowing nothing, of being capable of nothing, and having no opinion—except the one general idea of dislike to pertinacious Mr Hill, and the anticipation, which they are of course bound to make good, that his scheme would fail. And to these people Sir Robert Peel's government leave the conduct of post office reform.—*Spectator*.

TREATMENT OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS.—"At the end of the year 1841, he was enabled, by the zealous co-operation of the police in this town, to establish a regular plan, by which every master and mistress, who humanely took back an unfortunate servant, and every boy thus restored, should be visited, to ascertain at certain periods how the experiment worked, and he was proud to lay before them the result of the experiment for the last two years. In submitting these results, he was not calling on them to share in a triumph, but to participate in a struggle. The results were not satisfactory, but they were encouraging, and sufficient to justify him in calling upon them to aid in the experiment, if they agreed with him that it was the right mode of dealing with offences. Let every person who had had an unfortunate youth in his service, and who had humanely practised the greatest active kindness by taking this youth into his service, prevail upon others, if possible, to follow his example; let all who heard him resolve, as far as possible, to make a sacrifice, in order to restore those poor lost wanderers. The book which he had before him had been kept by a very active and meritorious officer, Mr Wm Hall, one of the superintendents, who, with Mr Stephens, had lent his aid, and whose assistance had been invaluable in the precision with which he paid his visits and recorded all the facts for his information. Now, he found from this book that the number of youths who had been convicted at the sessions before him, and who had been handed over to their employers, was forty-seven. He found that out of that number, thirty-three had given proof of their contrition [loud applause]; proving more or less, according to the time, that an evident improvement was going on in their regard. Of the remainder three cases are doubtful, and he was sorry to say there was no doubt about the remaining eleven—they were lost; they had left their masters under circumstances which had brought them again either before the quarter sessions in this borough or before some other court. But here again he was able to say that, comparing that relapsing class with those usually sent to prison, he found that the number that came back was very much smaller than those who suffered the punishment awarded."—*Speech of Mr M. D. Hill, Recorder of Birmingham*.

AN IRISH HIGHWAYMAN.—Dr W., Bishop of Cashel, was driving to Dublin with his wife and daughter, and alighted at the foot of a steep hill, to ease the horses. While he was tramping behind his carriage, a highwayman sprang out upon him from a fence, and robbed him of his purse, watch, &c. The fellow then let him go, but quickly seized him a second time, having taken a fancy to the bishop's coat. So

he dressed himself in Dr W.'s, and thrust upon him a tattered coat in exchange. The bishop then rejoined his wife and daughter, who advised him to throw the greasy coat out of the carriage. He consented, and was putting it off, when a jingling noise was heard. A search was made—the watch and purse were found in the pockets—and a large sum of money was discovered besides. The "Irish" robber had only got the bishop's coat. This tale is told at length and with great humour in the last number of the *Illuminated Magazine*—a periodical which we have already commended to our readers.

BRIBERY COMPARED WITH INTIMIDATION.—Compared with the system of terrorism, the system of bribery is virtue. Under the system of bribery both parties are pleased. The giver of the bribe gets what he most desires; the receiver of it what he most desires: both parties are gratified; both parties are contented. In both situations you see smiling faces, indexes of contented hearts. Under the system of terrorism, whatsoever feeling of satisfaction can have place, look for it on one side only: and even on that side scarcely can it have place, without having for its alloy the apprehension of odium, and that odium just:—frowns above; gloom below:—sympathy, satisfaction, nowhere.—*Benthamiana*.

SPEAKING AGAINST TIME.—Some years ago, Lord Althorp, being Chancellor of the Exchequer, proposed as "a boon to Ireland," to lower the duty on whiskey by 1s. a gallon. It was that same shilling which Mr Goulbourn replaced last year, by a mistaken calculation of a large increase to the revenue, and which he found himself the other day obliged again to remit. When Lord Althorp had made known his intention of thus consulting for the Irish taste (Father Mathew was then unknown), the Caledonian memoirs took umbrage at the slight put upon their native brewage, and protested angrily against it. But the word of the government was pledged; and the resolution should be brought forward. On the appointed day, however, for moving the reduction, the Chancellor of the Exchequer accosted More O'Ferrall in the lobby, and told him frankly that the majority of the Scottish members were too formidable to be provoked. He would, therefore, merely propose the resolution, as he was bound by his promise, but must leave it an open question to the friends of the government to take what side they pleased. The notice was a short one; and on looking through the house, the member for Kildare found a strong muster from the "Land of Cakes," and a very thin sprinkling of Irish members. Fortunately he knew where the latter were to be found; for he had been invited to join a large party of them in a white bait excursion to Greenwich; and he took the resolution of setting out immediately, and bringing them up for the division. But when how to keep the question afloat all the time that must elapse during his absence? He almost despaired, but seeing old Ruthven, and well knowing of what leathern quality his lungs were compact, he briefly explained to him the true state of the case, and begged of him to keep the house amused till he should return. "If you don't come back till the cows come home," said the hearty old fellow, "you shall find me here upon my two legs." So away O'Ferrall started down the river from Westminster bridge, with two pair of oars, and in less than an hour and a half walked into the house again with about twenty truants in his train. Ruthven was true to his word, saving the air and talking of words and barley, oats and agriculture, protection and native produce, heedless of the cries of "Question, question," which issued from two dozen Scottish throats all around him. He had just begun a new sentence, trusting to his mother wit for the end of it. The nominative case had been launched with an adjective or two, to give time for making out a verb, and he was on the point of enunciating a relative pronoun, to be followed, perhaps, by half-a-dozen parentheses, when More O'Ferrall whispered, as he walked past—"You may stop as soon as you like." "Faith, and I'd like it now," said the hon. and learned member for Dublin, sitting down without waiting to finish his period. The object was gained: Irish whiskey beat the Ferintosh by a majority of ten—a national triumph which never would have been achieved, had not Edward Southwell Ruthven studied verbiage in the Historical Society.—*Tail's Magazine*.

PUBLIC PROMENADES AT HAMBURG.—The walks which encircle the town are delightful: they are truly Elysian scenes, where "green alleys windingly allure." More fortunate than the inhabitants of most English towns, the people of Hamburg have spots of completely rural retirement, within a minute's walk of their commercial and bustling city. Wood, walks, and water are so combined as to form some of the most beautiful retreats that the fancy can conceive. These continentals certainly know how to enjoy life better than we English do: at evening they one and all repair to the promenade, to enjoy each other's society and conversation, and, instead of confining themselves in close and unhealthy taverns, as not a few do in England, they go to the cafe, seat themselves within or without the windows, listen to excellent music, and watch the ever varying objects of the promenade.—*Wilkey's Wanderings in Germany*.

HOURS OF BUSINESS.—The drapers' assistants of Swansea have achieved their object, in inducing their employers to close at eight o'clock. The ironmongers have likewise acceded to the same arrangement.—*Bristol Mercury*.

A young lady astonished a party the other day, by asking for "the loan of a diminutive argenteous truncated cone, convex on its summit, and semi-perforated with symmetrical indentations," or, in other words, a thimble.

Religious Intelligence.

PENYGOES.—On Tuesday and Wednesday, the 23rd and 24th of January, 1844, services were held at Penygoes, Pembrokeshire, in connexion with the settlement of Mr Simon Evans, late student at the presbyterian college, Carmarthen, as minister over the congregational church of that place. On Tuesday afternoon, at the chapel, Mr Llewelyn Rees, Tiewydel, introduced, and Messrs J. Williams, St Clears, and S. Griffiths, Horeb, preached. Sermons were preached in the neighbourhood in the evening. On Wednesday morning, at the chapel, Mr J. T. Jones, Llanybri, introduced. Mr James Griffiths, St David's, preached on the constitution of a Christian church, from Rev. i. 20. Mr Henry David Narbeth asked the questions, to which the young minister gave suitable answers. Mr John Evans, Hebron (the late pastor of the church, and the young man's father), prayed for the blessing of heaven upon the union formed. Mr D. Davis, theological tutor of the presbyterian college, Carmarthen, preached to the minister from 1 Cor. xiv. 19, and Mr Joseph Evans, Cassel Seim, to the church from Acts xiii. 15; and the services were closed by a short and pathetic address, and an appropriate prayer, by Mr D. Davies, Cardigan. The congregations were large, the weather favourable, and reason to hope that God was smiling upon the church and congregation.

BROMPTON.—The Rev. Thomas Clarkson Finch, of Penzance, has accepted an invitation from the Baptist church meeting in Alfred-place chapel, Brompton, and commenced his pastoral engagements there on the 21st instant.

LONDON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—The eleventh annual meeting of this association was held on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at New Park-street chapel, Southwark. At three o'clock in the afternoon a sermon was preached by Mr John Cox, of Shacklewell, from Galatians vi. 7. Dr Steane, of Camberwell, presided in the evening, when the letters from the churches were read; and a concluding address was delivered by Mr W. Frazer, of Lambeth. Brethren Mills, of Kensington, Peacock, of Goswell street, S. Davies, of Keppel street, and Dr Davies, president of Stepney college, were engaged in the devotional parts of the service. A collection was made for the objects of the association, amounting to upwards of £11. The clear increase of the churches (in number 28) this year is 248.

CARLISLE.—On Sunday, January 7, Mr J. Kitts, pastor of the Baptist church, Carlisle, preached two farewell sermons, prior to his removal to Dunchurch, Warwickshire; to which sphere of labour he has been appointed by the Baptist Home Missionary Society. On both occasions the members of the church were deeply affected, and more so at the conclusion of the Lord's supper, which was administered by Mr Kitts after the evening sermon; as he then took a final farewell of the members individually. The following evening, the church held a special prayer-meeting, to supplicate the Divine blessing on their endeared pastor in his new sphere of labour, as well as for their own guidance and prosperity. A very beautiful edition of the New Testament, in Greek and English, was presented to Mr Kitts; and a suitable present was also made to Mrs Kitts by the members of the church previous to their departure.

EPFING.—Mr G. D. Mudie, late of Portsmouth, has accepted a cordial and unanimous call to the pastoral office over the church at Epping, and has commenced his stated ministry among that people.

THE WEST AFRICAN MISSION.—We have received a letter from our dear brother Clarke, dated Port Antonio, December 8th. It appears that all on board had suffered considerably from bad weather, and that the vessel had made but little progress. The following paragraph shows the characteristic calmness of the writer:—"We are now becalmed, and the current is drifting us back; but in God's time all will go on in the right course. We are holding classes daily, teaching the Fernandian. On Sabbath I had a good time in public worship on deck." The contributions collected and paid to Mr John Clarke, Jamaica, amounted to £533 13s. 9d.—*Baptist Herald*, Dec. 13.

JAMAICA.—THE BAPTIST PETITION.—The second petition of the Baptist Western Union has, we understand, been received.—*Ibid*.

An official address from the general treasurers and secretaries of the Wesleyan Missionary Society has just been published, from which it appears that, on an investigation of the probable state of the finances for 1843, there is reason to apprehend that the income of the year will fall short of the expenditure by not less than from ten to twelve thousand pounds.

CHRISTIANITY IN SOUTHAMPTON.—A correspondent sends the following:—"One of the most distressing and inexplicable features of the Christian church, in the present day, is the indifference manifested by its members for the extension of that church in their several localities. Frequently a lively interest is taken in the cause of foreign missions, and occasionally costly sacrifices are made to advance this god-like scheme, by persons who overlook and greatly neglect large towns, populous districts, extensive parishes, and rapidly increasing communities in our own country. Many instances might be cited in corroboration of this fact, but let one suffice—and, as far as my observation will carry me, it is without its parallel. I refer to Southampton—here, the birth-place of the immortal Watts; here, where men have often taken joyfully the spoiling of their goods for conscience sake, and have become martyrs to the truth; here, where Providence has smiled, increasing the commerce, trade, and general improvement of the town—congregational dissenters have been

contented to enjoy the acceptable ministrations of one pastor for upwards of 33 years, without one vigorous and decided effort to raise a second interest. It is true, that almost uninterrupted prosperity has attended the labours of the pastor, numerous accessions have been made to the church, hundreds disciplined for glory, multitudes have heard the gospel, and, as a Christian Society, it stands out to view as large and respectable. But it is equally true, that while the congregation has increased from 500 to 1100, the population has increased from 10,000 to 32,000! It is painfully true, there is not church and chapel room, including all denominations, for 12,000 people, consequently 20,000 souls in this town could not, if they would, publicly worship God!! It is also true, there is not a single vacant pew in the present meeting house, and the want of accommodation is the reason assigned by many for not attending. And it is awfully true, that the fundamental doctrine of Christianity—viz., justification by faith, is kept out of sight by many, probably, the majority of ministers here, and that the dogmas of the Oxford tracts are firmly embraced and unblushingly proclaimed. While such is the state of Southampton generally, one district is especially destitute, situated at a considerable distance from "our holy and beautiful house where our fathers praised" God, occupied principally by tradesmen and hard-working labourers, containing a population of 16,000 souls, and with sanctuary accommodation for only 1,600. The time has now come for doing something for these perishing wretches. A movement is on foot, of the right sort, and in the right direction. A noble-minded, disinterested, and philanthropic Christian, a member of the Above-bar church, feeling the urgent claims of this district, purchased premises which will be unoccupied in June, and offered them and the site of ground to the minister and deacons, as a suitable spot for the new chapel; after some months' deliberation the offer was declined, and at a public meeting held last month, the church pledged itself to aid the new cause, should any persons feel "sufficiently interested" to undertake this important movement. Happily for Christian consistency, three men were found "sufficiently interested" in the erection of a house of prayer in this awfully destitute neighbourhood, to take the responsibility refused by the church upon themselves; and such are the characters of William Lankester, Joseph Knight, and Andrew Forbes, that none who know them will cherish a doubt, that the onerous work to which holy jealousy for the honour of their God has constrained them to put their hands, will fail for want of caution, wisdom, and effort, or that it will be carried on in any other spirit than the spirit of the gospel. They labour in imitation of Christ and his apostles; they compassionate the spiritual destitution of the 20,000 of their fellow townsmen, who are dying from the wounds which sin has inflicted upon them, and, like the good Samaritan, they will do their utmost to supply the remedy and pour in that life-giving balm, which is for the healing of the nations. The case loudly calls upon all who sympathise with them to offer their counsel, to aid them with their money, and to invoke upon them and their work the benediction of the Most High."

BIRTHS.

Jan. 19th, a poor woman, named TYE, aged 38, married to a sawyer upwards of 80 years of age, was safely delivered of a female child with three arms and one leg. The parents have another and perfect child, and are living at No. 6, Duke street, St George's in the East.

Jan. 22, at Leytonstone house, Essex, the lady of Edward N. BUXTON, Esq., of a son.

Jan. 25, the wife of Mr James MIRAMS, of Kennington, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 17, at the Baptist chapel, Mill street, Evesham, Mr JOHN DETHERIDGE CASEWELL, minister of that place, to ELIZA TOWNSEND, only daughter of Thomas White, Esq., late Mayor of that borough.

Jan. 21, at Mill street chapel, Hull, by Mr William Sanderson, Mr GEORGE SIDDELL to Miss CAROLINE COLLINSON, both of this town.

Jan. 22, at Providence chapel, Shoreditch, by Mr W. Miall, the pastor, JONATHAN TOZELAND to ELIZA MILLISANT; this being the first marriage celebrated in the above chapel, the parties were presented with a family Bible, accompanied with a suitable address by the minister.

Jan. 24, by license, at the Old Meeting, Westbury, by Mr Richard Harris, Mr THOMAS DOWDING, brewer, of Chippenham, to Miss ELIZABETH DOWDING, youngest daughter of Mr Samuel Dowding, clothier, of Westbury.

Jan. 24, at Claremont chapel, Pentonville, by Mr James Rowland, Mr JOSHUA FAULKNER to Miss MARY BIRDSEYE.

Jan. 24, at the Independent chapel, Matton, by Mr J. Pilkington, of Rayleigh, Mr J. H. GAUNTLETT, Baptist minister, late of Tillingham, to Miss ANN ATTERBOROUGH, of the same place.

Jan. 25, at Somerset street chapel, Bath, by Mr D. Wassell, Mr E. SELWAY, of Northampton street, to Miss MATTHEWS, of the same place.

Jan. 26, at Ebenezer chapel, Leeds, Mr JOHN HILTON, dissenting minister, of Derby, to ANNE ABIGAIL, only daughter of John HEAPS, Esq., of Brunswick street, Leeds.

Jan. 29, at the baptist chapel, Penknap, by Mr J. Preece, baptist minister, Mr THOMAS BRICK, brushmaker, to Miss CHARLOTTE HUMPHRIES, daughter of Mr James Humphries, wool-stapler.

DEATHS.

Jan. 23, at Brighton, aged 67, ANN, relict of the late Thomas SPALDING, Esq., of Drury lane and Kentish Town.

Jan. 25, at Glenarbach, JOHN MITCHELL, D.D., senior minister of the United Associate Congregation of Wellington street, Glasgow, and late professor of biblical literature to the synod of the United Secession church, in the 76th year of his age and 51st of his ministry.

Jan. 27, ANN, the amiable and beloved wife of Roger LEE, Esq., of Clapham common.

Jan. 27, Mr SAMUEL PORTER, clothier, Frome, aged 59 years. He had been for upwards of twenty-five years deacon of the baptist church meeting in Badcox lane. He was much respected in life, and his removal by death will be greatly deplored.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, Jan. 26.

BANKRUPT.

BENNETT, MARSHALL, Norwich, wine merchant, Feb. 3, March 8; solicitor, Mr Shearman, of 1, Trinity place, Charing cross.

EVANS, WILLIAM, Borthwaite, Merionethshire, miller, Feb. 7, March 7; solicitors, Messrs Lowe and Co., Southampton buildings, Chancery lane, London; Mr J. Jones, Dolgelly; and Messrs Curry and Co., Liverpool.

FOTHERGILL, JOHN, sen., Selby, Yorkshire, apothecary, Feb. 6, 27; solicitors, Messrs Jacques and Co., Ely place, London; Mr Haigh, Selby; and Messrs Ward and Son, Leeds.

HITCHIN, HENRY, Halifax, Yorkshire, ironmonger, Feb. 12, March 11; solicitors, Mr T. Slaney, Birmingham, and Messrs Bloome and Gatliff, Leeds.

MORGAN, GEORGE, Gloucester, currier, Feb. 1, March 14; solicitor, Mr Lovegrove, Gloucester.

ROLES, JOHN, late of Uxbridge, coal merchant, Feb. 2, March 5; solicitor, Mr J. T. Sleep, 2, Middle Temple lane.

RUSHTON, JOHN, jun., Nottingham, livery stable keeper, Feb. 6, March 5; solicitors, Mr J. Brewster, Nottingham, and Mr J. Smith, Birmingham.

TERAY, RICHARD, Winchester, plumber, Feb. 2, March 8; solicitors, Messrs Finch and Neate, 57, Lincoln's Inn fields.

WILSON, JOSEPH, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, linen manufacturer, Feb. 7, March 18; solicitors, Mr E. H. Plumptre, Temple, London, and Mr Cram, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BAIN, JOHN, Glasgow, clothier, Feb. 1, 22.

BURNSIDE, WILLIAM, sen., and WILLIAM, jun., Dumfries, cabinet makers, Jan. 29, Feb. 19.

ELLIOT, JOHN, Edinburgh, merchant, Jan. 29, Feb. 29.

HYNDE, WILLIAM, Eastfield, coal surveyor, Feb. 1, 22.

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 30, or any following Tuesday, R. Ainsworth, Warrington, Lancashire, cotton spinner—Jan. 30, or any following Tuesday, T. Booth, Sheffield, and Tinsley park, Rotherham, iron master—Jan. 30, or any following Tuesday, W. Hoole, Sheffield, leather dresser—Jan. 29, or any following Monday, R. Watson, York, silk mercer—Jan. 29, or any following Monday, J. Gordon, Liverpool, merchant—Jan. 29, or any following Monday, Swann and Kelly, Fleetwood-on-Wyre, Lancashire, bricklayers—Jan. 29, or any following Monday, Buchanan and Cunningham, Liverpool, merchants—Jan. 29, or any following Monday, Edwards and Walker, Chester, nurserymen—Jan. 30, or any following Tuesday, B. Thorniley, Broadbottom, grocer—Jan. 30, or any following Tuesday, J. Massey, Habergham Eaves, near Burnley, worsted spinner—Jan. 27, or any following Saturday, Clegg and Whitby, Liverpool, merchants.

Tuesday, Jan. 30th.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—
Chapel of Berea, Aberystwith, Monmouthshire.

DANKRUPT.

BALLS, THOMAS, Thames street, City, iron merchant, Feb. 13, March 12; solicitors, Messrs Tucker and Stevenson, Sun chambers, Threadneedle street.

BUTCHER, WILLIAM, Great Marlborough street, Westminster, commission agent, Feb. 13, March 8; solicitors, Messrs Mayhew and Mayhew, 26, Carey street, Lincoln's Inn.

BERRIDGE, THOMAS, Manchester, tobacconist, February 2, March 6; solicitors, Messrs Johnson and Weatherall, King's Bench walk, Temple, and Mr Kershaw, King street, Manchester.

HILLER, GEORGE, Sun street, Bishopsgate street, varnish manufacturer, Feb. 13, March 12; solicitor, Mr Rutherford, 13, Lombard street.

LEACH, JOHN, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ironmonger, February 12, March 19; solicitors, Mr William Lockett, Harle, Butcher bank, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Messrs Chisholm, Hall, and Gibson, 64, Lincoln's Inn fields, London.

LEQUESTRE, ALPHONSE, Chingford mills, Essex, miller, Feb. 6, March 13; solicitors, Messrs Adamson and Cooper, Ely place.

MURCH, HENRY, Norton-under-Haddon, Somersetshire, sail cloth manufacturer, February 14, March 7; solicitors, Mr E. Nicholletta, Bridport, Mr Stogdon, Exeter, and Mr George Brace, Essex street, London.

RODHAM, THOMAS, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocer, Feb. 8, March 20; solicitors, Mr Henry Ingledew, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Messrs Williamson and Hill, Gray's Inn, London.

TUBBS, JOHN, Basingbroke, Hampshire, draper, Feb. 13, March 19; solicitor, Mr Ashurst, Chislehurst.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED.

MILLINGTON, JOHN, and SALTER, THOMAS, Manchester and Low Mills, near Chorley, Lancashire, calico printers, Jan. 30.

JOYCE, THOMAS, Bristol, woollen draper, Jan. 31.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

MAILLARD, CHARLES ELDRED, Drumcarro, Fifeshire, coal master, Feb. 3, 24.

M'PHERSON, DUNCAN, Pitmain, Inverness-shire, postmaster, Feb. 5, 26.

ROSS and SON, DONALD, Balintore, Ross-shire, merchants, Feb. 5, 26.

DIVIDENDS.

Frederick Ford, Aldgate, City, draper, February 22.—Francois Gautier, now or late of Gould square, Crutchedfriars, City, Feb. 22.—John Cumming, 306, Tottenham court road, furrier, Feb. 22.—Nathaniel West, East Greenwich, Kent, victualer, February 20.—John Bourke Ricketts, 147, Leadenhall street, City, merchant, February 9.—William Hill and William Kemble Wackerbarth, Leadenhall street, City, ship agents, February 22.—Frederick Markby, Peterborough, Northamptonshire, common brewer, February 20.—James Leonard Woodruff, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, innkeeper, February 21.—Charles Mills Nicholson, New Corn Exchange, Mark lane, City, and of Dockhead, Bermondsey, Surrey, corn merchant, February 21.

In the country—James Lockwood and George Lockwood, Wakefield, Yorkshire, and St John's, New Brunswick, linen-drappers, February 23.—James Bottomley, Delph, Yorkshire, wool manufacturer, Feb. 23.—John Pepper, Wootton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, tailor, Feb. 22.—Robert Marsh, jun., St Helen's, Lancashire, chemist, Feb. 20.—John Lucy, jun., Liverpool, tailor, Feb. 20.—George Danson and John Walmale, Liverpool, merchants, Feb. 21.—William Havelock, South Shields, Durham, carver, Feb. 20.—Matthew Dixon, Hesse, Kingston-upon-Hull, corn dealer, Feb. 22.—John Wood, Beauvale, Nottinghamshire, miller, Feb. 24.—Robert Brown, Kingston-upon-Hull, bookseller, Feb. 22.—Joseph Temple, Myton, Kingston-upon-Hull, common brewer, Feb. 22.—Samuel Wilson Saffield, Birmingham, druggist, March 6.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The transactions in the funds during the past week have been numerous, as far as regards money stock, the principal of them ranging from £5000 up to £50,000, but in time operations scarcely anything worth notice has been done. The reduced three per cent annuities have reached within 1½ of par, the highest point, we believe, that has been attained for at least half a century. The brokers for the commissioners of the sinking fund have been directed to commence purchases in the three per cents of 1796. To the extent of about £30,000, investments in this old security have been made in the course of the past week, by which a saving of one half per cent has been effected.

| | Wed. | Thur. | Fri. | Sat. | Mon. | Tues. |
|----------------------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| 3 per cent. Consols | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ |
| 4 per cent. Account | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ | 97½ |
| 3 per cent. Reduced | 98 | 97½ | 98 | 98 | 98 | 98 |
| 3½ per cent. Reduced | 103 | 102½ | 102½ | 102½ | 102½ | 102½ |
| New 3½ per cent. | 102 | 101½ | 101½ | 101½ | 101½ | 101½ |
| Long Annuities | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 |
| Bank Stock | 194 | 194 | 195 | 194 | 195 | 195 |
| India Stock | 276½ | 276 | 275½ | — | 276 | — |
| Exchequer Bills | 68pm | 68pm | 68pm | 67pm | 67pm | 68pm |
| India Bonds | 80pm | 82pm | 81pm | 88pm | — | 81pm |

FOREIGN FUNDS.

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|------------------------|-----|
| Austrian | 114 | Mexican | 33½ |
| Belgian | 106 | Peruvian | 23 |
| Brazilian | 78½ | Portuguese 5 per cents | 74½ |
| Buenos Ayres | 31 | Ditto 3 per cents | — |
| Columbian | 11½ | Russian | 117 |
| Danish | — | Spanish Active | 22½ |
| Dutch 2½ per cents | 56½ | Ditto Passive | 5 |
| Ditto 5 per cents | 101½ | Ditto Deferred | 19½ |

RAILWAY SHARES.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------------|-----|
| Birmingham and Derby | 60 | London and Brighton | 44½ |
| Birmingham & Gloucester | 66½ | London & Croydon | 16½ |
| Blackwall | 6 | London and Greenwich | 5½ |
| Bristol and Exeter | 67½ | Ditto New | — |
| Cheltenham & Gt. Western | — | Manchester & Birm. | — |
| Eastern Counties | 104 | Manchester and Leeds | 109 |
| Edinburgh and Glasgow | — | Midland Counties | 90 |
| Great North of England | — | Ditto Quarter Shares | — |
| Great Western | 109½ | North Midland | 95 |
| Great Eastern | 71 | Ditto New | — |
| Ditto Fifth | — | South Eastern and Dover | 36 |
| London and Birmingham | 245 | South Western | 76½ |
| Ditto Quarter Shares | — | Ditto New | — |

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, Jan. 23.

The supply of English wheat from the near counties this morning was unusually small, and the condition of the greater part very bad: the whole sold tolerably well at last Monday's rates. We had an improved inquiry for free foreign, particularly the finest qualities, but cannot quote them generally higher.

Fine barley meets a free sale: ordinary qualities are the turn lower.

Beans and white peas sell at last week's prices, and grey peas at a decline of 1s. per qr.

The arrivals of oats have been very large during the week. They are held firmly at last week's prices, which are fully maintained on the fine qualities, and a good business has been done in this description. Black oats, and the middling qualities of Irish, sell slowly.

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| Wheat, Red New | 48 to 57 | Malt, Ordinary | 42 to 58 |
| Fine | 50 to 59 | Pale | 54 to 63 |
| White | 45 to 60 | Rye | 30 to 37 |
| Fine | 56 to 63 | Peas, Hog | 27 to 33 |
| Flour, per sack | 36 to 50 | Maple | 28 to 33 |
| Barley | 26 to 32 | Boilers | 31 to 38 |
| Malt | 32 to 35 | Beans, Ticks | 26 to 34 |

| | | | |
|---------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| Beans, Pigeon | 30 to 36 | DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN. | |
| Harrow | 27 to 28 | Wheat | 20s. 0d. |
| Oats, Feed | 18 to 23 | Barley | 6 0 |
| Fine | 20 to 22 | Oats | 8 0 |
| Poland | 20 to 23 | Rye | 10 6 |
| Potato | 19 to 25 | Beans | 10 6 |
| | | Peas | 10 6 |

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR JAN. 25.

| | | | |
|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| Wheat | 51s. 8d. | Wheat | 50s. 6d. |
| Barley | 33 7 | Barley | 32 7 |
| Oats | 18 9 | Oats | 18 7 |
| Rye | 31 7 | Rye | 31 2 |
| Beans | 29 6 | Beans | 30 2 |
| Peas | 30 3 | Peas | 31 1 |

SEEDS.

Cloverseed, both red and white, is held firmly at former rates; and there is no alteration in trefoil. Canaryseed was very unsaleable, but not cheaper. In other species of seeds there was scarcely anything passing.

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Linseed | per qr | Clover | per cwt |
| English, sowing | 50s. to 60s. | English, red | 46s. to 65s. |
| Baltic, ditto | — | Ditto, white | — |
| Ditto, crushing | — | Flemish, pale | 44 to 52 |
| Medit. & Odessa | 36 to 38 | Ditto, fine | 70 to 115 |
| Hempseed, small | 35 to 38 | New Hamb., red | 63 to 68 |
| Large | — | Ditto, fine | 70 to 122 |
| Canary, new | 58 to — | Old Hamb., red | 42 to 54 |
| Extra | 60 to — | Ditto, fine | 70 to 115 |
| Caraway, old | — | French, red | 50 to 70 |
| New | 57 to 62 | Ditto, white | — |
| Ryegrass, English | — | Coriander | 15 to 20 |
| Scotch | — | Old | — |
| Mustard | per bushel | Rapeseed | per last |
| Brown, new | 12 to 18 | English, new | 25s. to 26s. |
| White | 10 to 12 | Linseed cakes | — |
| Trefoil | 25 to 34 | English | 9s. 10s. to 10s. 6s. |
| Old | 14 to 28 | Foreign | 5s. to 6s. 10s. |
| Tares, new | 4 to 6 | Rapeseed cakes | 5s. 5s. to 5s. 10s. |

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Jan. 29.

The demand for hops has been quite steady, and takes off at the current rates all that is offered; but holders keeping back, there is not so much doing as there might be. There have been sales of old hops, owing to the dearth of new samples. Pockets, 1843:—Sussex, 12s. to 13s.; Walsley, 12s. to 13s.; choice ditto, 13s. to 14s.; East Kent, 14s. to 15s.; Mid. Kent, 14s. to 15s.; ditto bags, 14s. to 15s.; Farnham pockets, 15s. to 21s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Jan. 29.

The arrivals last week from Ireland were 14,228 firkins butter, and 5859 bales bacon; and from foreign ports 419 casks butter. The butter market remains firm, without any particular alteration to notice: there is a good consumptive demand, but the extreme mildness of the weather checks any disposition to speculate. Quotations as this day week. In bacon but little is doing; prices without change; but few sellers for shipment, owing to the high rates paying in Ireland for pigs. Lard in better demand, at an advance of about 1s. per cwt. Hams meet a dull sale.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Jan. 29.

For the time of year there was a full average supply of beasts on offer as to numbers, and an evident improvement in the general quality of the Scots, short-horns, and Devons. But, owing to the large arrivals of slaughtered meat up to Newgate and Leadenhall, and the low figures obtained there, as well as in most of the local markets, the beef trade was in a sluggish state. The numbers of sheep, though not large, were fully adequate to meet the wants of the butchers. Prime old Downs sold steadily; Kents, half-breds, &c., slowly. There were about 100 shorn sheep, and 50 lambs, on offer; but their quotations were very uneven. The numbers of calves were small, while the sale for them was active. In pigs a good business was doing. No importations of foreign stock have been reported since our last.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).
Beef 2s. 8d. to 4s. 0d. | Veal 4s. 0d. to 5s. 0d.
Mutton 2 10 .. 4 4 | Pork 3 0 .. 4 2

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

| Beasts. | Sheep. | Calves. | Pigs. |
|--------------|--------|---------|-------|
| Friday 451 | 2,130 | 148 | 340 |
| Monday 2,744 | 26,170 | 83 | 270 |

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Jan. 29.

| Per 8lbs. by the carcass. | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Inferior Beef | 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. | Inf. Mutton | 2s. 8d. to 3s. 0d. |
| Middling do | 2 8 .. 2 10 | Mid. ditto | 3 2 .. 3 4 |
| Prime large | 2 10 .. 3 0 | Prime ditto | 3 6 .. 3 8 |
| Prime small | 2 .. 3 4 | Veal | 3 10 .. 4 10 |
| Large Pork | 2 8 .. 3 8 | Small Pork | 3 4 .. 4 0 |

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, Jan. 29.

The continuance of fine weather, during the past week, has brought the turnip-tops into the green market earlier and more abundant than usual, and consequently arrested the improvement in the demand for potatoes. The supply has been limited, but there with former arrivals have been fully sufficient for the present demand.

York reds .. per ton 60s. to 80s. | Guernsey whites .. —s. to —s.
Devon do 65 .. 70 | Kent and Essex do 50 .. 55
Scotch do — .. — | Walsley do 50 .. 55

WOOL.

Sales of combing wools have been brisk this week, and a further advance in price has been realised, though not equal to the rates which the staplers have been compelled to give in the country. There is more doing in clothing wools, and at better prices than of late; but they are considerably lower in proportion than fleeces and combing sorts. Laid Highland has been sold at an advance on late rates. White Highland is also in request at advanced rates. Good crossed and Cheviot wools have been much in demand, at an advance likewise on late rates. The stocks of all kinds of foreign being low, there is necessarily a limited business, but at rather increasing rates.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Jan. 27.—At per load of 36 trusses.
Coarse Meadow .. 52s. to 63s. New Clover Hay .. 63s. to 100s.
New ditto Old ditto
Useful Old ditto .. 65 .. 73 Oat Straw 25 .. 28
Fine Upland ditto .. 74 .. 80 Wheat Straw 29 .. 32

COAL EXCHANGE, Jan. 29.

Stewart's, 20s. 3d.; Hetton's, 20s. 3d.; Braddyl's Hetton's 20s. 3d. Ships arrived this week, 116.

GROCERIES, Tuesday, Jan. 30.

TEA.—A very steady demand has been again experienced for the fine descriptions of both black and green teas, especially the former, and late quotations were firmly supported.

SUGAR.—The stocks of Sugars generally, as made up to-day, show much greater deficiency, as compared with those at the corresponding period last year, than for some time past, the supply of West India in warehouse being now only 10,763 hhds. and tierces, against 15,187 ditto in 1843. Of the 1,700 barrels, &c., Havannah offered, scarcely any portion found buyers; but 100 hhds. Barbadoes went off with spirit, at a slight advance on last week's prices, one very handsome board selling at 70s. per cwt. The show of refined goods has been small. The refiners are rather anxious sellers. The standard lump has sold at 75s., at which price it is heavy.

COFFEE.—Several public sales were held to-day, and at which a full average business was transacted, at fully the late advance. The stock of West India Coffee is now only 2,946 casks, against 4,121 ditto at the same time in 1843. That of Mocha is large, viz., 10,190 bales, against 6,573 ditto last year. Of Ceylon, we have now on hand 43,050 bags, against 50,245 ditto in 1843, being a decrease of 7,195 bags.

Advertisements.

THIS EVENING, a TEA PARTY and SOIREE, in honour of W. S. CRAWFORD, ESQ., AND HIS SUPPORTERS, will be held at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, STRAND, at Half-past Five o'Clock.

LECTURES ON ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

THE REV. J. STEVENSON, A.M., will deliver the CONCLUDING LECTURE on TUESDAY EVENING NEXT, FEB. 6, at the BOROUGH ROAD CHAPEL, SOUTHWARK.

Subject:—"The Present Duty of Christians in reference to Ecclesiastical Establishments."

To commence at Half-past Seven o'Clock.

LONDON PEACE SOCIETY.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7, 7 P.M., a PUBLIC MEETING at COVERDALE CHAPEL, LIMEHOUSE. Rev. HUGH S. SHABORN in the Chair.

FRIDAY, FEB. 9, 7 P.M., a LECTURE in the SCHOOL ROOM of STEPNEY MEETING, Stepney Green. By Mr JEFFERSON.

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

IT having been arranged that a DEPUTATION from the FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND shall visit LONDON about the close of February, for the purpose of explaining and advocating the principles of the Free Church, and of making Collections on behalf of its Building Fund, the London Committee are now actively engaged in making the requisite arrangements. The Committee fear lest, in a place like the Metropolis, some Ministers and Churches, who would gladly render their aid to the cause, may be overlooked; and they therefore take this mode of respectfully inviting the assistance and support of all Evangelical Christians, to whom, through ignorance or inadvertence, special applications are not addressed. All Communications forwarded to No. 13, Exeter Hall, will be promptly and gratefully acknowledged. Attendance will be given at the Hall every day from Twelve to Three o'Clock.

JAMES HAMILTON, } Secretaries.
R. W. STEWART, }

PLUMBE'S GENUINE ARROW ROOT, from the South Sea Islands; forwarded by Mr WILLIAMS, Son of the late lamented Missionary, and consigned directly to A. S. PLUMBE, whose signature is necessary to insure its being genuine.

This Arrow Root has been tested by the most eminent Physicians in London, and found by them to be greatly superior, and more nutritious than any other. It is hoped, as the Missionary cause is greatly benefited by the sale of this article, the friends of Missions will patronise it. Ministers in the country will greatly oblige by giving publicity to it to their friends and congregations.

Sold by Stationers, Druggists, Grocers, &c., in Town and Country, in One-pound Packets, at 1s. 6d. per lb. Considerable profit allowed to persons anxious to vend the article. Particulars may be obtained of A. S. PLUMBE, 3, Allie place, Great Allie street, Whitechapel.

BETTS'S PATENT BRANDY.

DISTILLERY, No. 7, SMITHFIELD BARS.

NOTWITHSTANDING the publicity for many years past given to the superiority of BETTS'S PATENT FRENCH DISTILLED BRANDY over every other Spirit, British or Foreign, it is yet but partially known; J. T. BETTS and Co. therefore, feel it a duty they owe to the Public and themselves, to invite a comparison between the Patent and the French Brandy, until every Family in the kingdom, in which Brandy is consumed, have made trial of their Patent Brandy—and, consequently, discontinued the use of the Foreign Article. Their respective merits are fairly developed in the following Testimonials, to which they again beg to refer.

EXTRACTS FROM TESTIMONIALS.

"I do not hesitate to express my conviction that your Patent Brandy is fully as free from every thing injurious to health, and contains as pure a spirit, as the best varieties of Foreign Brandy."

—EDWARD TURNER.

"Professor of Chemistry in the University of London."

"John T. Betts, Esq."

"I am bound to say, and do assert it with confidence, that, for purity of spirit, this cannot be surpassed; and that your Patent Brandy is also quite free from those acids which, though minute in quantity, always contaminate the Foreign Spirit."

—JOSEPH HUME,

"J. T. Betts, Esq."

"Your Brandy is free from uncombined acid and astringent matter, which exists, more or less, in most of the Brandy imported from France."

—JOHN THOMAS COOPER,

"To Mr Betts."

It is this perfect freedom from the above objectionable qualities, and its agreeable similarity in flavour to the finest samples of Cognac Brandy, that constitute the peculiar value of the Patent Brandy.

J. T. BETTS and Co. are, at length enabled to give a distinct assurance that arrangements will be completed in the course of the present month, which will afford an unfailing protection to purchasers against the continuance of those frauds, from which they have hitherto so extensively suffered; as each bottle will be secured by a PATENT METALLIC CAPSULE, or covering for the cork, of solid metal, with their name, address, and the words "BETTS'S PATENT BRANDY" embossed upon it; the forgery of which subjects the guilty party to a Penalty of Fifty Pounds for every offence.

This valuable Spirit is manufactured only at the Distillery, No. 7, Smithfield Bars, leading to St John Street; where it may be obtained, either pale or coloured, in quantities not less than Two Gallons, at Eighteen Shillings per Gallon, for Cash on delivery.

THE ECLECTIC REVIEW for FEBRUARY.

On the 31st January, price 2s. 6d.
CONTENTS.
1. Huber's English Universities.
2. Memoirs of the Marquis of Pombal.
3. Hävernick's Introduction to the Old Testament.
4. Popular Astronomy.
5. Anti-corn-law League—Its History and Prospects.
6. John Foster—His Writings and Genius.
&c., &c.
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THE UNION MAGAZINE, for SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS. Contents:—History of the Sunday School Union; Elementary Instruction—Teaching to Read; Sunday School Records. Illustrations of Scripture: The Mosaic Account of the Creation; "Doorkeeper," Psalm lxxxiv. 10. Correspondence: On Mr Dunn's Letters to Sunday School Teachers. Queries: On the Relation of the Sunday School to the Church; On Infant Classes. Reviews: Roberts's Oriental Illustrations; Collins's Teacher's Companion; The Child's Own Book. Intelligence: Recent Movements on Public Education; Minutes of the Committee of Council on Education; Sunday School Libraries in France.
London: SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION, 60, Paternoster row.

This day is published, price Eighteenpence.
THE STATE AND PROSPECTS OF PENNY POSTAGE, as developed in the Evidence taken before the Postage Committee of 1843: with Incidental Remarks on the Testimony of the Post Office Authorities; and an Appendix of Correspondence. By ROWLAND HILL.
London: CHARLES KNIGHT and Co., 22, Ludgate street.

This day, price 5d., or by post, 6d., No. I of

THE FREE CHURCH MAGAZINE.

CONTENTS:—Address—Present Position of the Free Church—The Wodrow Society's Publications—Numerical and Moral Strength of the Free Church and of the Establishment—Poetry: Death of Richard Cameron—Destination of the Jews—Deputations to England—Poetry: A Good Confession. By James Montgomery—Foreign Sympathy with the Free Church—Memoranda of Public Affairs—Notices of New Books—Free Church Progress—Topics of the Day—Denominational Information—Missions—Miscellaneous—Calls, Ordinations, and Inductions—New Churches Opened.
Edinburgh: JOHN JOHNSTONE. Glasgow: J. R. M'NAIR and Co. London: R. GRONBRIDGE. And sold by all Booksellers.

Just published, price 5s.
NOTES ON NATURAL HISTORY, selected from the "Microscopic Cabinet," with 10 coloured Engravings, from Original Drawings. By ANDREW PRITCHARD, M.R.I., Author of a "General History of Animalcules," "Microscopic Illustrations," &c.
London: WHITTAKER and Co., Ave Maria lane.

THE BAPTIST RECORD and BIBLICAL REPOSITORY. No. II. Price 6d.

On Thursday next,
CONTENTS FOR FEBRUARY.
1. Paul an Apostle of Jesus Christ—A Chapter in the Evidence of Christianity.
2. Roman Catholic Missions. By Dr Tholuck.
3. Sketches from the Crucifixion—The Betrayer.
4. Dr Robinson's Researches in Palestine.
5. On the Structure of the Pauline Epistles.
6. The Jerusalem Bishopric and Apostolical Succession.
7. Passing Literary Notes.
8. Endeavours after Truth.
9. Home Record.
10. Foreign Record.
G. and J. DYER, 24, Paternoster row; to whom all communications for the Editor are requested to be addressed.

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